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OPINION METER

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NATION



President Obama names Susan Rice as his national security adviser.

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An aspiring half-marathon runner's back pain turns out to be labor.

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Carrie Underwood wins top honors at the CMT Music Awards.

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Hocog taken aback by Quichocho public hearing schedule. PAGE 4
Regents remove 3 honorary members from NMC board. PAGE 5

NMI govt deficit grows to \$369M

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Despite the work hour cuts and other austerity measures in place at the time, the CNMI government's total fund deficit climbed to almost \$369.4 million in fiscal year 2011, from \$316.7 million in 2010, newly released financial statement findings of independent auditing firm Deloitte & Touche LLC show.

The total fund deficit is triple the amount of the governor's proposed budget of \$123.4 million for fiscal year 2014, which begins on Oct. 1.

In 2007, the total fund deficit was still

below \$200 million, Deloitte data shows.

The Deloitte report is addressed to Gov. Eloy S. Inos.

With tourism arrivals in the upswing

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2 Senate panels to review casino bill

» **Popular initiative to ban casino gaming on Saipan readied**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Acting Senate president Victor Hocog (R-Rota) said yesterday that the Saipan casino bill the House of Representatives passed on Wednesday will be referred to two Senate committees for review, even as private



Hocog

citizens are preparing a public initiative to ban casino gaming on Saipan once the legislation passes the Senate and signed into law.

The House transmitted House Bill 18-45, House Draft 7 to the Senate yesterday afternoon.

Hocog said he will be referring the

See CASINO on Page 4



474 traffic cases to cause courtroom overload

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Department of Public Safety's aggressive campaign against traffic violators last month is expected to overload one courtroom in the Superior Court for arraignment hearings.

Superior Court clerk of court Patrick Diaz disclosed that there were 463 cases of traffic violation citations in May this year for payable offenses such as not wearing a seatbelt, carseat, and speeding.

This is a 60-percent-plus increase over the 201 similar traffic violation citations in the same month last year, Diaz said.

Jim Stowell, the NMI Judiciary's public information officer, said yesterday that persons who have been cited may plead not guilty to violating a traffic law, but they must appear in Superior Court at the date and time indicated in the citation.

Stowell said, however, that "payable" traffic citations—such as those cited for

See TRAFFIC on Page 4

'BRING THEM BACK'

Nothern Marianas College student Jemma Manibo, standing, airs the students' concern about the recent non-renewal of two instructors and appealed for their reinstatement during yesterday's meeting of the Board of Regents on campus.

MONETH G. DEPOSA

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Local

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'Give proof that two faculty members were unqualified'

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Two Northern Marianas College students appealed to the Board of Regents yesterday to require its president, Sharon Y. Hart, Ph.D., to provide documentations and proof that will support her decision not to renew the contracts of two faculty members.

Jemma Manibo and Lawrence Camacho, during the public comment period in yesterday's board meeting, also asked the board to reinstate faculty members Larry Lee and Kyle Podziewski if Hart fails to come up with proof.

Hart earlier claimed that their lack of qualifications became the basis for her decision not to renew the contracts of Lee and Podziewski. "For too long NMC has allowed instructors to teach courses for which they aren't qualified and that is one major reason difficult decisions must be made on hiring and contract renewals," she had said.

Manibo told the board yesterday: "Show us documentation that there is a minimum qualification criteria in place. Show us that they are not qualified. And if you cannot show us these documentations, have them reinstated because this institution should be based on what the student needs, not on what the board feels."

Besides these two faculty members, Manibo said that students are also appealing to the regents for the protection of other and future instructors of the college who may experience the same situation.

Manibo cited the educational background and other credentials of the two non-renewed faculty to prove his point.

"Mr. Larry Lee holds a Global Masters of Business Administration degree and

over 25 years of professional experience in the tourism/hospitality industry in Hawaii, Oregon, Hong Kong, Alaska, the Philippines, and the CNMI. He has been an educator since 1988, and has 10 years of post-secondary teaching experience at a U.S. accredited institution," he said.

Podziewski, he said, has an MA in Teaching Secondary Education as well as an MA in Adult and Higher Education, both from U.S. accredited institutions. He has over five years' experience teaching in K-12, 12 years' experience in postsecondary education with over 18 years teaching ESL and EFL to children and adults in Japan, Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, the Philippines, the CNMI, and the United States.

"Good educators should not be released or relieved. They are good instructors who do not just teach, they inspire. They might have a different approach to how a traditional teacher/instructor should be, but this is a college institution. An institution that educates adults and prepare us for how the real world really is. They've made a difference in our education," according to Manibo.

He also posed a series of question for the board.

"If, by some chance, they are not qualified and the board has documentation to prove it, what happens to the students who have taken their class? Are the credits that have been earned invalid? If so, how do we get our money back? Does that apply to those who graduate? Do they have to come back and take the classes that were taught by Mr. Kyle or Mr. Lee? How does NMC plan to accommodate us as far as that class is concern? Do we have to pay for it? Or will NMC have us take the class for free?" he asked.

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1-year extension to complete certification requirements OK'd

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

Public school teachers who fear losing their jobs next school year can now heave a sigh of relief after the Board of Education yesterday approved a one-year extension for them to complete their certification requirements.

The proposal was endorsed yesterday by Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D., to the three-member fiscal and personnel affairs committee, which unanimously approved the recommendation. The full board is expected fully ratify the decision at its next regular meeting.

Nearly 200 staff of the CNMI Public School System—mostly classroom teachers—were issued 90-day non-renewal notices following a determination that they are non-compliant with the board's certification and licensure policy. Most of the recipients were notified that their contracts will expire on Aug. 13 and that they will only be renewed if all requirements are met.

The one-year extension kicks in from the date the 90-day notices were received.

During yesterday's panel deliberation, member Marylou Ada and board chair Herman T. Guerrero emphasized that the extension will not exceed one year and teachers must show good faith in completing the requirements.

Besides this extension, Guerrero's committee also waived the "teaching practice or practicum" required under the Basic II requirements for teachers.

A memorandum of understanding between the commissioner and affected teachers, at Tinian workshop focus on cattle production

Tinian and Aguiguan Mayor Ramon M. Dela Cruz recently hosted a three-day conference at the Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino that aims to enhance the island's livestock production.

The topics covered by different sessions were cattle production, meat processing and marketing, land use issues, and programs for ranching.

Dela Cruz said the conference focused on modern technologies that are used in a ranch, the anatomy of animals, the improvement of not only the animal but also the grass and feed the animals eat, diseases among cattle, and how to slaughter cattle under the U.S. Department of Agriculture rules.

According to Dela Cruz, the meat industry helps the island's economy as Tinian is also experiencing an economic downturn along with the rest of the Northern Marianas Islands. He said Tinian is a perfect place for the meat industry with its abundant grassy fields. (Reina S. Perez)



From left, Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D., and financial consultant Ed Tenorio examine PSS data while board chair Herman T. Guerrero, right, presides over the meeting of the board's fiscal and personnel affairs committee yesterday.

According to Guerrero, must also be initiated to ensure that there is a target timeline and action plan for the teachers to work on in collaboration with the PSS.

Guerrero cited prior experiences where many teachers only enrolled in required classes at the beginning but later dropped out, resulting in failure to comply with the certification and licensure policy.

"If they can do it in less than

90 days, then they should do it. The timeline should be achievable [for the teacher] because we don't want to drag it for one year...that's not realistic," according to Guerrero.

Board member Tanya King said the teachers' progress in meeting the requirements must also be tracked and monitored.

King expressed hope that the

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Hocog initially taken aback by Quichocho public hearing

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Acting Senate President Victor Hocog (R-Rota) says he was initially taken aback by the Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations' setting of a Monday public hearing on Ramon "Ray" Quichocho's nomination as associate judge, even if it was not the Inos administration that submitted the required documents to the Senate.

Hocog asked the Senate legal counsel to review whether the EAGI Committee can proceed with a public hearing on Quichocho's nomination without receiving from the administration a copy of the nominee's resume, police clearance, drug test result and statement of financial interest.

"I cannot say that the proposed scheduled hearing for Mr. Quichocho on Monday is a go. Until all required documents reach my attention that I can say the public hearing is [imminent]. At this point, I say, no public hearing will take place on Monday. I will communicate this matter with the administration [Thursday] morning," Hocog said in a social media announcement.

By Thursday afternoon, however, Hocog said the EAGI Committee can now proceed with the public hearing.

"The Senate rules don't say anything about the administration submitting the documents. But previously, the administration would always submit the documents to the Senate in behalf of the nominee. The EAGI

chairman can schedule and proceed with public hearings if it has the documents required, even if it's not from the administration," Hocog told *Saipan Tribune*.

Hocog echoed EAGI Committee chair Sen. Frank Cruz's (IR-Tinian) earlier statement.

Cruz said the EAGI panel received the required documents from the nominee himself and not from the Executive Branch "more than a week ago."

4 more suspects in Tanapag riot arrested

Police arrested on Wednesday four more suspects in a riot in Tanapag that left a man in critical condition.

Joaquin Glenn T. Rios, 36; Surella Jaema Rios, 31; Ramon S. Kaipat, 35; and Don E. Ngiraked, 41, were all taken to Superior Court yesterday on charges of assault with a dangerous weapon, riot, and disturbing the peace. Their bail was set at \$20,000 cash each.

The riot occurred at a compound in Tanapag on Saturday afternoon.

Riomanio Rios was allegedly hit with a metal baseball bat on the forehead by his cousin, Norbert Rios.

Riomanio was last reported in

He said there is nothing in the Senate rules that require these documents to come from the governor's office.

"We are not changing the Senate rules. It does not say whether the documents should come from the administration," Cruz said, clarifying an earlier statement.

The public hearing on Quichocho's nomination to serve as Superior Court associate judge is at 10am on Monday

critical condition at the Commonwealth Health Center.

Norbert, who was among the four men earlier arrested, also sustained a laceration in the right eye.

Police detective Jeffrey I. Norita stated in his report that, based on interview with witnesses, during the struggle between Riomanio and Norbert, Glenn pointed a shotgun at Moses Rios Jr., Jack Rios, and Moses Rios Sr.

Surella, wife of Joaquin, allegedly threw rocks at Moses Jr. and family.

Ramon Kaipat allegedly joined the rock-throwing, one of which hit Moses Sr.

Ngiraked allegedly hit Moses

in the Senate chamber on Capitol Hill.

Quichocho's nomination has drawn both strong support and opposition among community members.

As of yesterday, there is no telling whether those who support or oppose the nomination will testify before the Senate panel on Monday morning.

The Inos administration has stood by its nomination of Quichocho despite the

Jr. on the head a baseball bat. He then dropped the bat and ran away. It was the same bat that Norbert allegedly used to hit Riomanio.

On the day of the riot, police arrested Norbert, Moses Sr., Moses Jr., and Jack.

Moses Sr. and his sons Moses Jr., Riomanio, and Jack allegedly assaulted Norbert with rocks and a wooden club.

Police learned that Norbert got mad at Moses Sr. and his family for not shutting off the water faucet in the compound. A verbal tussle between Moses Jr. and Norbert escalated into a beating and rock-throwing between the two families. (**Ferdie de la Torre**)

Statement on the passing of PFC Mariano Raymundo

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) has issued the following statement on the passing of Private First Class Mariano M. Raymundo, U.S. Army, a 21-year-old former resident of Tamuning, Guam.

"I am deeply saddened at the loss of Private First Class Mariano M. Raymundo, another young son of Guam," said Bordallo. "My heart and prayers go out to his family and friends on this sad day. He served with honor and

distinction like many sons and daughters of Guam who served before him and gave the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our country. We will be eternally grateful for his bravery and service to our nation." (**PR**)

DEFICIT

From Page 1

of late, future reports may post a healthier financial state.

The governor and Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider, through Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson, said in a separate report accompanying the Deloitte report that the CNMI general fund posted a "total fund deficit of \$351.3 million" in 2011, a 4.3-percent increase from \$336.9 million in 2010.

"For budgetary reporting purposes, general fund actual revenues were higher than final estimates by \$2.8 million, or 2 percent, while reported actual expenditures exceeded final estimated appropriations by \$31.5 million, or 20.5 percent," Finance said in the report which, along with the Deloitte report, was obtained by *Saipan Tribune* from the Office of the Public Auditor yesterday afternoon.

These amounts do not include transfers to and from other funds, nor does it include the receipt or use of long-term debt proceeds.

Budget deficit is a combination of overspending and revenue shortfall.

Copies of the reports were

also provided to Senate and House members, some of whom are now working on the fiscal year 2014 budget bill.

With the steady increase in deficit and no funds set aside to retire it, past and present administrations may have been violating the CNMI Constitution.

Article 10 Section 6 of the CNMI Constitution says the government shall retire the deficit during the second consecutive fiscal year following the year.

Deloitte data

Deloitte data shows that total assets were at \$33 million while liabilities, at \$378.5 million in 2011.

Total revenues were at \$141.6 million, while total expenditures were at \$194.9 million.

"The cause of the above condition is that resources are not readily available to alleviate cash flow needs. Further, revenue resources are not adequate to meet increasing expenditures/obligations," Deloitte said in its financial statement findings.

It recommends that the CNMI review its various functions so it could maintain adequate cash flows to meet current obligations.

Inadequate cash flows to meet current obligations were reported as a finding in the sin-

gle audits of the CNMI for fiscal years 2004 through 2010.

Larson, on behalf of the CNMI government, said in response to the Deloitte audit that various austerity measures, including reduced work hours, hiring freeze, stringent review of non-personnel expenditures and reduced budget allotments have reduced expenditures from \$193 million in 2007 to \$154 million in 2011.

"Revenues have fallen at a faster rate than expenditures during this period but the cash flow effect was mitigated by \$60 million in deferred retirement contributions," Larson said.

In fiscal year 2011, employee work hours were reduced by 20 percent or 16 hours—from the regular 80 hours to 64 hours per pay period, among other austerity measures.

Administration data

The Inos administration data, meanwhile, shows that for the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 2011, the CNMI's total net deficiency increased by \$18.7 million, to a net deficiency position of \$238.9 million from \$220.2 million.

This represents an increase of some 8.5 percent from the net deficiency position at the begin-

ning of the year.

During the year, the CNMI's expenses for governmental activities were \$292.3 million, including expenses recorded for payments made or due autonomous agencies, and were funded in part by program revenues of \$158.9 million and further funded with taxes and other general revenues totaling \$114.7 million.

The difference between total revenues of \$273.6 million and total expenses of \$292.3 million is what resulted in the \$18.7 million increase in net deficiency.

The administration said economic factors continue to play a large role in developing the tax and other revenue budgets for the general fund of the CNMI.

"The local economy, still slowed by the effects of a drop in tourism and loss of the garment industry, has continued to follow a trend of decreasing revenues. The prospects for fiscal year 2012 appear similar, with not much recovery in sight," the administration said.

It said the financial report is designed to provide citizens, taxpayers, customers and creditors with a general overview of the CNMI's finances and to show the CNMI's accountability for the money it gets.

NMI Bar Association "failing grade" rating on Quichocho's suitability as an associate judge and amid complaints against the nominee related to fraud, racketeering, rape, among other things.

Quichocho was only among a few lawyers in the CNMI that publicly supported the im-

TRAFFIC

From Page 1

failing to buckle-up as part of the DPS "Click it or Ticket" campaign—may be paid without the driver's need to appear in court.

"The driver must pay the fine before the appearance date on the citation. Payment must be made at the Superior Court Cashier's Office (door #2) during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, 7:30am to 4pm," he said.

The court, Stowell said, will issue a bench warrant for those who fail to either make payment or appear in court.

In an interview, Diaz said the 463 cases filed in court can be disposed of by court hearings or by payments.

Diaz recommended that those who received citations and have no plans of challenging them should pay early or before the arraignment date, or they will be sitting in court for two to three hours.

The June 27 arraignments before presiding judge Robert C. Naraja are for citations that were issued in May.

Diaz revealed that, as of Wednesday, there are 474 cases for the June 27 arraignment.

Even if 50 percent of those will dispose by payments, there

peachment of former governor Benigno R. Fitial, who resigned days before his impeachment trial. He was also the counsel for a taxpayers' lawsuit against a no-bid, 25-year, \$190-million diesel power purchase agreement with Saipan Development LLC that was a major part in the Fitial impeachment.

are potentially still 237 to undergo arraignment proceedings.

Because of this large number of cases, Diaz said they are planning to divide the assignment of the cases to two courts.

He also noted that there is only one assistant attorney general handling traffic cases.

For the July 11 arraignment, 124 cases have already been filed as of Wednesday morning.

Diaz estimates the number to go up to 300 cases.

"This just shows that DPS program is successful, effective," he added.

If violators miss the payment, the court may issue a bench warrant in the amount of \$110 on top of the regular violation fees.

The penalty for offenses such as not wearing a seatbelt, carseat, or speeding range from \$25 to \$300.

"Our goal is to inform the public to dispose early to avoid a lot of trouble," Diaz said, adding that those given citations should not take them for granted.

In a separate interview, DPS spokesman Sgt. Tom Blas disclosed that the reason for the high number of traffic citations is due to the nationwide "Click It Or Ticket" campaign and the Law Enforcement Month celebration where they conducted a lot of checkpoints and carseat inspections.

of the Saipan casino gambling bill.

He said elected leaders have overlooked viable solutions to save the NMI Retirement Fund.

Rep. Roman Benavente (IR-Saipan), one of the seven House members who voted against the casino bill, made it clear yesterday that he supports saving the Fund but he does not agree that a casino industry will be its salvation.

He said the Fund would have already perished long before a casino industry would be established even if the bill is signed into law soon.

Benavente and vice speaker Frank Dela Cruz (IR-Saipan), who also voted against the bill, said should community members launch a popular initiative to ban casino gaming on Saipan, they would sign off on that initiative.

Many of the 13 House members who voted to pass the Saipan casino bill said that times have changed and things have gotten worse and still there has not been a viable solution that will immediately pump millions into the Fund before its expected demise in March 2014.

CASINO

From Page 1

casino bill to the Committee on Resources, Economic Development and Programs, as well as to the Fiscal Affairs Committee.

"I would also recommend that the committees conduct a public hearing on the bill on Rota and Tinian," Hocog told *Saipan Tribune*.

The Senate killed a similar Saipan casino gaming bill two years ago—for the second time.

Wednesday night's passage of the Saipan casino bill at the House also comes a few years after Saipan voters rejected the proposal—also for the second time.

Glen Hunter, a private citizen, said yesterday he and others are fully prepared to draft, launch, and ban casino gaming on Saipan through a public initiative "should the Senate pass the bill and [Gov. Eloy] Inos sign it into law."

Hunter said any prospective casino investor should bear in mind that the public would overturn or repeal the lawmak-ers and the governor's approval

CITING RECOMMENDATION FROM THE ACCJC

Regents remove 3 honorary members from NMC board

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

The three non-voting members of the Northern Marianas College Board of Regents were officially removed from their posts as honorary members effective yesterday at the recommendation of the accrediting commission.

The decision resulted in the removal of the honorary student member, honorary faculty member, and honorary staff member.

Because the decision takes effect upon approval, Faculty Senate president Kyle Podziewski, Staff Senate president Danny Kintol, and Associated Students of NMC president Alex Shen immediately vacated their seats yesterday even before they could present their individual reports to the board.

Acting board chair Elaine Orilla—along with Malua Peter, Frank Rabauliman, and William Torres—said the decision to remove these positions is at the recommendation of the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges. The commission had aired concerns about the existence of honorary regents and their direct participation and involvement in the discussion of policy issues.

They said the removal of the voting members is meant to preserve the independence of the board.

They emphasized that this decision is a right step toward the desired reaffirmation for the college.

The regents who voted in favor of the proposal were Orilla, Rabauliman, Peter, and Torres. Only regent Andrew Orsini opposed. Juan Lizama and Michaela Sanchez were excused from yesterday's meeting.

NMC president Sharon Y. Hart, Ph.D., said the board's

action addresses Team Recommendation No. 8 from the accreditation commission: "The team urges the college board to reconsider its policy of having honorary regents who are elected to represent some college constituent groups, participate in direct discussion of policy issues during board meetings." The team indicated in the report that the existence of honorary members is a violation of accreditation standards.

But according to Orsini, if one looks at the history of the college's accreditation, which successfully won reaffirmation for many years, the "long practice and culture" of having honorary members on the board seems to have not impacted the commission's decision in the past.

"For many years, this institution has gone through so many accreditations, so many certifications from the accreditation... but only until now [that we have this issue on honorary members]! So I voted no [to the motion]," said Orsini.

Check and balance

Disappointed by the board's decision, Podziewski said the removal of the honorary regents, especially the faculty and staff representatives, would mean the loss of checks and balances in the operation of the institution.

"It removes the check and balance. I can understand why the board has decided to do that, but I must say this was never an issue until this president," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

He fears this decision may result in more favorable moves for the president.

Kintol refused to comment on the issue while Alex Shen supported the board's decision.

"Participating in the board has given students a great voice. But it doesn't mean that this

is the only channel we have. We have other ways to air our concerns and I am not worried about being removed as honorary member. I just hope students will understand that accreditation is very important. To give up this tiny little voice for a bigger future of this institution and the CNMI is worth it," he said.

MONETH G. DEPOSA

Board of Regents member Andrew Orsini, left, talks with Associated Students of NMC president Alex Shen moments after the board adopted to remove all three non-voting members from the board. Orsini is the only regent who voted no to the members' removal during yesterday's board meeting.



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Jurors deadlocked in Backman trial

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona gave the jury more instructions yesterday after they failed to reach a unanimous verdict in the sex trafficking case against karaoke operator Chang Ru Meng Backman.

The jurors failed to reach a verdict late yesterday afternoon and will continue deliberation today, Friday. They began deliberations on Tuesday.

Manglona was informed of the jury deadlock yesterday before noon.

Assistant U.S. attorney Rami Badawy asked the court to provide the jurors with "Allen charge" or supplemental jury instruction.

"Allen charge" is a criminal procedure in which a supplemental jury instruction is given by the judge to encourage

a deadlocked jury to reach a verdict.

Defense attorney Joaquin Torres objected.

Manglona gave Torres a few minutes to consult Backman about the issue and a new trial date if the court will declare a mistrial due to a hung jury.

Outside the courtroom, Backman was seen crying as Torres explained the situation to her.

When the hearing resumed, Torres withdrew his objection.

The jurors were then called and Manglona provided them with deadlocked jury instruction.

Backman is on trial on charges of three counts of sex trafficking by force, fraud, or coercion. Three Chinese women were allegedly recruited in China in August 2008 based on promises of jobs at a hotel or a farm in America or Saipan, only to be forced into prostitution once they got here.

TWO YEARS AFTER COMBINING JUNIOR, SENIOR HIGH ON ROTA:

'Rota community's opposition to schools' merger remains'

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

Two years after the Board of Education approved the merger of the Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Junior and Rota High School, community members remain strongly opposed to the decision and are hoping that the merger will be reconsidered this coming school year.

Board member Denise Tanya King disclosed this to her colleagues yesterday as she questioned the actual benefits derived and generated by the Public School System from the merger, which she said has negatively affected the education of Rota students.

King disclosed that parents, students, and teachers on Rota remain vocal in their sentiments

against the merger, which the PSS leadership said will remain in effect in school year 2013-2014.

"I would be remiss if I didn't express the sentiments of the Rota people. I understand that you're in a precarious situation. I just want it to be noted that those are the sentiments of the children and the people of Rota. It's been two years and it is my hope that those sentiments would have changed as time progressed. Unfortunately, that has not been manifested. People are just not happy [with that decision]," King said during yesterday's meeting of the board's fiscal and personnel affairs.

King disclosed that high school students are unhappy with their classrooms, which they describe as "prison cells." This is in addition to some secu-

rity concerns like the existence of a gas station near the school. The merger of Rota's secondary schools in 2011 left the high school building vacant as all students, except for JROTC classes, were moved to the former Rota Junior High campus.

In terms of program offerings, especially vocational courses, King cited the "tremendous disparity" offered to high school students on Rota, referring to the limited career technical education programs, or CTE, available at the Dr. Rita Inos Hocog Junior and Sr. High School, which has only four programs.

This is far from what is made available to other public high schools. Kagman High School has 31 CTEs; Marianas High School, 18; and Saipan Southern High, nine. Tinian Jr.

and Sr. High School also has four CTE programs.

"With all this offerings, would you choose your child to be on Rota?" King asked.

Rota per pupil cost

According to PSS financial consultant Ed Tenorio, Rota students get the highest per pupil cost, as shown in the school's yearly local budget.

He disclosed that Sinapalo Elementary School has a per pupil cost of \$3,098 compared to Saipan elementary schools with an average per pupil cost of only \$2,200.

For the Dr. Rita Inos Hocog Jr./Sr. High School, the per pupil cost is \$3,058, much higher than Saipan secondary schools that have an average of \$2,200 per pupil cost.

"So even with the merger, Rota students are getting a favorable amount in pupil allocation," said Tenorio, adding that PSS saved about \$300,000 from the merger.

Unsatisfied with Tenorio's report, King said she can't understand the formula used by PSS to come up with the per pupil cost.

"I am trying to understand. ...In what way are they getting more?" she asked.

If it is true that Rota schools get a big per pupil cost, how come the problem on limited staffing remains, she added.

Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D., said she's disappointed after hearing about the lingering concerns on Rota related to the merger made two years ago.

"I am just disappointed that parents are not being forward and frank with us. I think we really need to sit down with the parents for them to understand why it's very impossible at this

time [to reconsider the merger]. We believe that the best way to operate the schools on Rota is really to combine them because of effectiveness and efficiency when we talk about our fiscal resources," said Sablan.

She disclosed that it would be difficult for PSS to operate a junior high on Rota, for example, with only 92 students. She cited the staffing needs this decision would require.

"At present, there's a lot of cost-savings [from the merger] and utilities is one. I hope parents would understand that it's really about the economics," she said, adding there are only a total of 152 students at the Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Jr./Sr. High School.

The merger also resulted in the moving out of sixth graders from the junior high school to the Sinapalo Elementary School.

The junior high used to accommodate sixth to eighth graders while Rota High School housed 9th to 12th graders.

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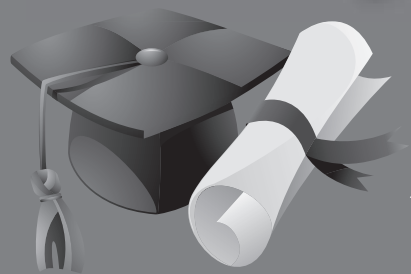
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Kroul named to Selective Service local board

By REINA S. PEREZ
STUDENT REPORTER

A member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars was newly appointed to be the Saipan Selective Service local board member of the Northern Marianas Islands.

Hartley Kroul is Saipan's Selective Service board member appointed by the director of the Selective Service System with the recommendation of Gov. Eloy S. Inos.

According to Kroul, Selective Service has been in effect since the outbreak of World War II. This process enables the federal government, if it sees the need for more men, to use the Selective Service call-up. This is what most people know to be the draft. The U.S. government



REINA S. PEREZ
Hartley Kroul, member of the VFW, is the local Selective Service board member for Saipan.

seeks to be able to call young men, especially between the ages of 18-26, to service if the need for more men arises. When the U.S. government sees a need for a draft, a presidential decree will be given.

According to Kroul, the men chosen for the draft will be given a designation through the Selective Service. If the chosen man wants to be exempted from the draft, he will have the opportunity to go before the Selective Service board to ask for a deferment of draft.

The CNMI's Selective Service board consists of one member for Tinian, one for Rota, and one for Saipan. Kroul serves as the board member for Saipan.

According to Kroul, if the man does not agree with the designation given to him by the

first set of board members, he can request for a recall. At this time, more Selective Service board members will join the first set to determine the man's designation.

If a man's exemption is granted by the board, according to Kroul, he will be placed in a service grouping where he will serve the U.S. government another way other than military.

"Right now, there is no draft," Kroul said, "This is just being set up by the federal government so that in the event that they have to go to draft some of the young men, they have the ability to do that. And I'm one of those guys that will help."

The Selective Service process is a process required by federal law, but it has not been recently done in the island.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

June 7, 2004

NMIRF, BoS told to settle

The Superior Court has compelled the NMI Retirement Fund to work out an agreement with the Bank of Saipan about the withdrawal of its funds, or the court will set provisions outlining the Fund's limited access to its \$5.6 million deposit with the bank. Associate Judge Juan T. Lizama directed the Fund to retain the bulk of its deposits in the bank and to reach an agreement with BoS until June 29, according to Robert O'Connor, bank chairman Paul Calvo's attorney. Lizama ordered that the Fund reach an agreement similar to the one recently reached by the Marianas Public Lands Authority with BoS, O'Connor said. The MPLA, the biggest government depositor in the bank with some \$9 million in deposits, would get a substantial portion of its funds and undisclosed regular monthly payments beginning this month.

CNMI gets \$1.7M grants

Gov. Juan N. Babauta and Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Interior David B. Cohen signed Friday three different grants for the CNMI totaling \$1.7 million. Babauta said the grants included a \$720,000 funding for the continued automation of the labor and immigration information system. "We want a full automation of the entire system," he said. A separate \$71,000 grant would go to Rota for the improvement of its emergency response team. "This funding will be used to improve the emergency response capabilities on Rota by creating an early warning system," he said. Babauta said part of the grant will also be used to build new water wells on Tinian.

June 7, 2005

No funds yet for '05 COLA

The NMI Retirement Fund board has decided to withhold the release of a 2.7-percent cost of living allowance for retirees this year due to the lack of remittances from the central government. "The board has made a decision that we would only give it [COLA] when there's funding from the government for such purpose. We can't shoulder it ourselves," said Fund administrator Karl T. Reyes. This came even as the Fund approved to raise the COLA to 2.7 percent this year, which translates to about \$863,000 for 2005. The previous year's COLA was at 2 percent. The allowance is incorporated in the retirees' pension every 15 days.

World Resort to re-apply for new QC

World Resort Saipan will surrender its existing qualifying certificate and re-apply for a new one, in the hope of getting more tax benefits for the additional \$4 million the hotel plans to put into its expansion project. Although filing a new application would take at least four months to process, World Resort special project manager Kyong Won Lee said having a consolidated qualifying certificate would prove more convenient for the hotel than complying with the requirements of two separate QCs. On Aug. 31, 2004, Gov. Juan N. Babauta signed a qualifying certificate granting World Resort total tax rebates of \$4 million over a 10-year period. This was based on the hotel's February 2004 expansion plan, which had an estimated cost of \$14 million.

June 7, 2006

'Money in repatriation program for workers now zero'

There is no more money in the repatriation program, according to former Judge Timothy H. Bellas, who is chairman of the Garment Oversight Board. Bellas submitted yesterday in federal court a breakdown of how GOB spent since November 2003 the \$356,798 that was allotted as repatriation fund for garment workers under an agreement that settled the class-action lawsuit against the CNMI garment industry. Bellas said that, from November 2003 to Jan. 26, 2006, GOB issued repatriation payments to 353 workers. "Under the original program, they gave us 436 names. We were not able to contact 292 of them for various reasons," the former judge told the Saipan Tribune after yesterday's hearing at the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

'Class-suit workers to get checks by June's end'

The lawyers representing the plaintiffs in the class-action lawsuit against the CNMI garment industry informed the federal court yesterday that the disbursement of checks to the workers may be completed by the end of the month. Attorney Pamela Parker, who appeared in court via telephone along with other off-island counsels for the plaintiffs, told U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Alex R. Munson that the payment process is in place now. Parker said the disbursement of checks should take place in about three weeks.

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House OKs withdrawal of DC plan money

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Close to 1,000 government employees who opted to move to the Defined Contribution plan may also be able to withdraw their account balance without terminating employment, after the House of Representatives passed a DC bill on Wednesday. The same opportunity was afforded to Defined Benefit plan members up until the NMI Retirement Fund stopped it in November 2012.

The DC bill, however, still has to pass the Senate and signed by the governor.

Vice speaker Frank Dela Cruz's (IR-Saipan) House Bill 18-46, House Draft 1 passed the House by a vote of 20-0.

The House Special Committee on Retirement, which reviewed the bill and recommended its passage in the form of HD1, said there are "close to 1,000 government employees who opted to move to the Defined Contribution plan."

The committee said DC plan members' biggest concern is that 10 percent of their salary is being deducted every payday and now that the U.S. Social Security contribution is kicking in, that will mean another 6 percent deduction. This means a total of 16 percent is being taken from their paychecks.

"The DC plan members believe that in fairness, they should be given the same opportunity as the DB members to be able to withdraw their accounts upon request without being required to terminate employment," the committee said, concurring with the bill's findings and purpose.

All 20 House members voted in favor of the bill.

Public Law 17-82 made membership in the DC plan voluntary. However, there was no provision made for withdrawal of the DC member's account prior to termination of employment.

The same law allowed only DB plan members to withdraw

their contributions. Although the law gave DB plan members the option to roll over their money to the DC plan, it did not allow them to withdraw their money if they wanted out of the DC plan.

Under Dela Cruz's bill, a DC member can withdraw his account upon request, without being required to terminate employment.

The amount eligible for withdrawal includes the member's contribution, vested portion of the government contribution and account earnings.

If the amounts withdrawn by the member are not rolled over into a 401k or other approved retirement account, the member will be required to pay Chapter 7 income tax, Chapter 2 earnings tax and may be subject to a 10 percent penalty.

The bill says the penalty imposed for early withdrawal is established by the Internal Revenue Code incorporated by 4 CMC Chapter 7.

Under the amended bill that passed the House, a member is eligible to elect distribution of the member's account 60 days after termination of employment "or giving notice of election to receive distribution of the member's account."

The member's spouse must consent to the request "for distribution" in writing if the member is married "on a form prescribed by the administrator."

Distribution of an individual account may be made on account of an immediate and heavy financial need of the member for the following reasons: medical care; purchase of a principal residence for the member; postsecondary education tuition and related educational fees for the next 12-month period for the member, spouse or dependent; prevention of eviction of the member from principal residence or foreclosure on the mortgage of the principal residence; or any need prescribed by IRS in a revenue ruling, notice or other document of general application.

Friday Mass to honor two fallen soldiers, pray for those deployed

Families and friends in the CNMI of the members of the Guam Army National Guard will be holding a Mass tonight to honor the late Sgt. Eugene Aguon and Spc. Dwayne Flores of Guam who were killed in Kabul, Afghanistan on May 16.

They were among some 600 soldiers from Guam and the CNMI that were deployed to Afghanistan in April. Of the estimated 600 soldiers, 16 men and women are from the CNMI.

"The Mass is also intended for those currently deployed," Marie Salas-Igitol, CNMI Family Readiness Group Liaison for the Guam Army National

Guard, told *Saipan Tribune*.

The Mass is at 6pm tonight at the San Vicente Church.

"On this day, Spc. Flores will be laid to rest in Guam and we would like to do our part back here at home honoring him by going to Mass. Sgt. Aguon will be laid to rest next week Tuesday... May our fallen heroes' soul rest in peace—a peace they fought and died for, for the freedom and liberty so that we can enjoy the lives we live today," Salas-Igitol added.

A former Guam resident, Pfc. Mariano M. Raymundo, 21, also died June 1, in Sharan, Afghanistan. (Haidee V. Eugenio)

Inos to withdraw order placing Fund under emergency

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos is withdrawing former governor Benigno R. Fitial's Executive Order 2012-06 that declares a state of emergency for the financially troubled NMI Retirement Fund.

Assistant attorney general Reena J. Patel informed the U.S. District Court for the NMI on Wednesday that Inos has expressed his intent to withdraw EO 2012-06 and is in the process of taking the steps to do so.

Patel stressed, however, that Inos does not take the position that the executive order was invalid.

Nonetheless, Patel said, the CNMI government believes

that withdrawing EO 2012-06 will render moot Betty Johnson's motion for preliminary injunction as there is no longer a threat of imminent harm.

The government requested the federal court that Johnson's motion for preliminary injunction be removed from the court's calendar.

On June 7, 2012, Fitial issued EO 2012-06 suspending the power of the Fund's board of trustees and administrator and transferring this power to Finance Secretary Larissa Larson. Fitial then stated that the executive order shall become effective immediately upon the court's filing of its order

dismissing the Fund's bankruptcy case.

In June 2012, U.S. District Court for the NMI Bankruptcy Division designated judge Robert J. Faris issued an order formally dismissing the Fund's Chapter II bankruptcy petition.

In August 2012, Fitial agreed not to implement the executive order until the federal court resolves the motions, including a motion for preliminary injunction, filed by then unnamed retirees (now Johnson).

Johnson's motions for temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction seek to prevent Fitial from "illegally

seizing the Fund and assuming dictatorial control over it."

The following month, U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood issued a TRO that prohibits Fitial from enforcing the executive order.

During Tuesday's status conference, Tydingco-Gatewood asked the CNMI government whether Johnson's motion for preliminary injunction was moot.

The Office of the Attorney General had said it will consult Inos first before responding to the question. The judge told the OAG to submit a response by Wednesday, June 5.

Patel notified the court yesterday about Inos' decision to withdraw the executive order.



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Opinion

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Of disconnection with reality

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.

Buddy Magoo was smiling slyly, ear-to-ear, taking quick glimpses into the blue skies of paradise hoping for some intellectual answers to the economic disaster at home. He calls the apparent insensitivity of policymakers who look the other way “very sad.”

Said he: “When it comes down to seeing your policymakers smiling without distressful faces, you quiz if they are not suffering from reluctance or inability to make distinctions on an obvious matter at hand. Is it the lack of perception, economic or civic imagination?”

Cousin Kitalaṅ chimed: “Magoo, it’s wrong to assume the lack of perception or imagination among policymakers (from both sides of the street) in that it has always been like this.”

Magoo disagrees. “Nah! The genesis of the deepening disconnect is rightly in the court of both the Legislature and administration. Each is singing an unusual tune I call ‘casual behavior’ that has become systemic.”

Interjected Kitalaṅ, “Isn’t I Deni supposed to serve as the beacon of hope where principle-based discussions are held, focusing on realistic issues to help our people get out of subterranean economic misery?”

Said Magoo, “That hill would have been the ideal venue for hope glowing daily, interminably, but not when these folks are often disoriented and disconnected.”

Said Kitalaṅ, “It’s time to set a criteria on entering public office in much the same fashion as PSS on its teachers, etc.”

As it is, there’s the hollow space in their makeup: No faith, no hope, no sense of humility; no sense of focus; no sense that they could do something good for the multitude; no comfort knowing their personal latitude and longitude in the great scheme of things; no ethical compass to give them their bearings and help them navigate between what is right and what is wrong, what is good and what is bad. But then, these are supposedly our bicameral policy worthies who’ve been snoozing rather than springing into action!

Even more damning is their blank and empty faces, so disoriented and disconnected to the miseries at home to which they’ve done nothing but whistle at the iceberg rather than place people on the boat for safety. Their mind has diminished as though everything is just a lot of “lifeless particles and electrical currents or, in many cases, replaced by nothing at all, this empty space has dilated.”

The heavy smoke of economic cataclysm is given the usual empty acknowledgment, doubled by ignoring the clamor at NMC where the rights of instructors and everybody else has been trampled by an autocrat who relishes power over recapturing accreditation for the institution. Is disconnection the bane of people in power? Must not the evolution of kleptocracy be stopped now?

CPA unjustly lowers the bar

Just as PSS issues pink slips to a good number of its teachers for failing to meet various certification requirements, the CPA board lowers the bar on credentials and experience for the next executive director-applicant.

It’s an interesting decision and one that is loaded with hideous putrefaction, debasing a standard that must be upheld by the board for

See REALITY on Next Page



Obama-Xi in Rancho Mirage

This Friday, the leaders of the world’s two top nations will hold a summit in a California ranch. The countries they represent are the world’s two biggest economies, the two largest trading nations, and the two worst air and water polluters.

America’s economy is fueled on credit; it promotes expenditures on future earnings. It is the world’s largest debtor. China acts as a developing country, prudently saving before it spends. It is the world’s biggest creditor.

While the sizes of their sovereign geographies are relatively the same, the population count is not. From the top view of every five people in the planet, one is Chinese. From the bottom, for every American counts five Chinese.

However, the United States spends more than the combined budgets of the next top 10 nations in war preparation and defense. It may not have sovereignty over many countries where its military is present, but the spread of its powers is extensive.

The Western media story since Napoleon is that a strong China is a threat to its neighbors. In our current state of interdependence, that’s everyone. Containment evolves as the policy, or, let the sleeping tiger lie.

The current charge is that China does not play by the rules. Like econometrics where the calculus flourishes in the classroom but hardly affect the market beyond the statisticians’ craft, preaching on abiding by the rules goes with the wind. Rule of law in China wears a Chinese face, and China would rather rewrite the rules to benefit involved parties rather than allow the bias of free market competition be detrimental to the unwary.

Obama before his election to a second term was belligerent against China. The White House socialist soft on communism remains a common conservative refrain. Xi Jinping at home combats widespread indifference to the CPC leadership he chairs. Membership in the Communist Party is less than 10 percent of the population. Since Deng Xiaoping ushered Reform and Opening Up, the ethos of the possessive economic “I” replaced the often constricting political “we.”

Obama presides over a fractious America, steeped on the dialectic that pits a thesis against an antithesis to birth a synthesis. Deep in the political psyche is respect for the consent of the governed, as well as the dissent of the refuseniks. Obama moved the acceptance of diversity further than any President in the last century, but overzealous administrators in Washington always check first before they balance. They tax the limits of governance in the affairs of individuals and organizations (Obama is charged with abrogating the right to kill anyone anywhere anytime). It is clear that Obama is as much a creature of Washington’s politics than the transformational messiah of the “Yes We Can” cult.

Xi Jinping drums into the nation’s consciousness the image of the China Dream, with its main features proposing a win-win situa-

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara (jrvargarajr2031@aol.com) is a former PSS teacher and is currently writing from the campus of Shenyang Aerospace University in China.

tion for everyone. The dreaming enjoins 1.35 billion citizens. It is a work in progress rather than portions already cooked and served on Beijing china. Citizens’ participation is encouraged.

Second, it demolishes the notion that some folks are to be more equal than others. China straddles an embarrassing economic divide between its urban and countryside population (though not as radical as the wealth gap of 1/99 America). It is systemic; it is working to fix its *Hukuo* registration system so that individuals are not penalized for living in the city while registered in their countryside birthplace.

The CPC leadership is sensitive to the reality of its officials becoming too wealthy. Xi admonishes party leaders that they cannot govern and be filthy rich at the same time. Nothing against being filthy rich, he reportedly claims, but if one wants to be that rich, one shan’t do that on the shoulders of governance.

A third feature of the China Dream involves the rest of the world. China’s gain cannot be anyone’s loss. Containment of China fails because Beijing would rather collaborate than compete, cooperate than draw a line on the sand. *Perestroika* is alive in China though *glasnost* is a ghost next door. The promise of transparency from the White House is also a scourge and a curse.

Obama promotes the military’s “pivot turn” to the Pacific to pacify a nation unaccustomed to being asked to leave. The U.S. military is not welcome in many parts of the world since its construction brigades gave up bridges and school rooms; it rather lives in privileged zones and play with drones. Or holds live-fire training on islands. It is seen as the protector of Wall Street’s commercial houses of greed.

There is a sense in which the best that can come out of the rancho will be photo ops. Neither Obama nor Xi can deviate from the tune already scored by their bureaucracies before arriving at the table. But there is no charge for California Dreamin’! In L.A., that used to be a fully paid four-bedroom two-car garage house, of a family with 2.5 children and half a dog. My students in China pine for a one-child family driving a Ferrari on a clear mortgage. Attaining both is like trying to reverse climate change.

It is unlikely that China will be invited to join Obama’s Trans-Pacific Partnership cookout. Nor would China accept if asked. But we’ll see what the mirage of Hotel California dreams up.

EDITORIAL POLICY

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Weird science

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed at EdStephensJr.com. His column runs every Friday.



Some things are cool because you can see them. Other things are even cooler because you can't. Welcome to some weird science. On the seeable end of the spectrum, while you're looking for the famous "green flash" this evening, you may note a line of celestial objects that are immediately following the sinking sun. That's a triple conjunction of planets: Mercury, Venus, and Jupiter, listed from highest over the horizon to the lowest.

As these planets are dropping behind our Pacific waters, if you run out of spooky campfire stories to tell, you can ponder that the largest black hole yet discovered will be looming overhead of Saipan. At that point of the evening, just as Mercury sets, it will be about 75 degrees (more or less, depending on the exact time) over the northern horizon. That's "overhead" in my book, but maybe it depends on how big your head is.

But the distance is sure big: The galaxy in which this black hole resides, known as NGC 4889, is so far away that its light takes 320 million years to reach us here on Earth. It's far too dim to see with the bare eyeball, and it's all too far away to have any effect on us. So it's not like you're going to get gobbled up by the black hole, even if you take a hike up Mt. Tapochao and reach for the skies.

Still, it is, indeed, up there, working its spooky voodoo, ensconced behind the gravitational veil of the "event horizon," beyond which there is no return.

It's said to be 21 billion times the mass of the sun. That is one heck of a black hole.

Given the freaky nature of black holes, they generate a lot of interest among laymen and scientists alike. There is a lively genre of books that serve to popularize the topic for the general public.

One such book is *Death by Black Hole* (384 pp., W.W. Norton, \$15.95), written by the astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson. The book is a collection of cosmically-oriented essays, written with knowledge, style, and a healthy dash of refreshing irreverence.

Another book is a classic written by the famous British physicist Stephen Hawking, *A Brief History of Time* (212 pp., Bantam Books, \$18.00), which first came out in 1988, and has been revised since.

Both of the above books have been bestsellers. As for Hawking's work, it made black holes and related topics the stuff of every day talk around the office water cooler after it first hit the shelves.

Hawking notes that the term "black hole" was coined in 1969. And I shall note that like some other useful phrases, such as "working vacation," it's a benign self-contradiction. After all, a hole is a lot of nothing. But a black hole, by contrast, is a lot of something.

It's so much something, packed into so little space, that not even light itself can escape the gravity. It's the ultimate Hotel California: You can check out anytime you like, but you can never leave.

The term "black hole" may be recent, but the notion isn't. The idea runs all the way back to 1783, so Hawking notes, when a Cambridge (that's in England) scholar named John Michell proposed, correctly, that sufficiently massive stars could collapse in on them-

selves, thus creating the yet-to-be-named black holes.

If you peer into this stuff you wind up unearthing a lot of stories about these Old School geniuses figuring out stuff centuries before their time. *A Brief History of Time* sheds some light on some of these heroes, whose names and stories have, all too often, been neglected by history, or at least that portion of it that is commonly doled out to slobbs like me.

Our own galaxy, by the way, has a black hole sitting right in the middle of it. In fact, just about every galaxy I read about has a black hole sitting downtown, oftentimes gobbling up whatever's in the

neighborhood, and leaving behind an untidy swirl of cosmic candy wrappers as evidence.

Beyond the gee-whiz element of things, what's the big deal with these black holes? Well, they are such intense examples of gravity in action that scientists study these extreme conditions to get a better understanding of how gravity works. Or that's what I think they do.

As for the rest of us, we can just enjoy watching and wondering from time to time. It's fascinating, confusing, and even a little bit spooky sometimes. And sometimes we see it. Sometimes we don't. Either way, we are still part of it.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Support passage of SB 18-2

For decades active duty service members from the CNMI were subjected to property taxes in other states and the passage of Senate Bill 18-02 will eliminate such injustice.

Under the Armed Services Soldiers' and Sailor's Civil Relief Act, nonresident servicemen are immune from state sales and use taxes. Based on previous incidents in Connecticut, nonresident servicemen were being forced to pay sales and use taxation in their host state (Connecticut). The U.S. government brought suit against various Connecticut officials to determine if the state taxes and use taxes were subjected to the nonresident servicemen in the state. The lower court granted the federal government's motion of summary judgment against the State of Connecticut. Connecticut appealed the lower court's decision and the Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit affirmed the lower court's judgment. The Court of Appeals found that the Connecticut's sales and use taxes collection from nonresident service members present in the state with military orders was in violation of the section 514 of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act. In *Dameron v. Brodhead*, 345 U.S. 322 (1953), "Where a serviceman domiciled in one state is assigned to military duty in another state, the latter state is barred by section 514 of the Soldiers' and Sailor's Civil Relief Act of 1940, as amended, from imposing a tax on his tangible personal property temporarily located within its border—even when the state of his domicile has not taxed such property."

A good plan

Our Congressman Kilili mentioned that the visitor center for the Marianas Trench National Monument should be placed on Rota. That is a wise idea. Why? If the Center is to be placed in CNMI soil, Rota is the most appropriate place. With the exception of Guam, Rota is the closest to the deepest ocean in the world and not only is the trench known for its size but also its depth. As a national park, Rota is the most pristine both from the marine assets as well as from its land asset. The fauna and flora cannot be compared to any of the inhabited islands within the Mariana chain including Guam.

Rota is home to several avian assets that are now listed as endangered and that it is important to preserve. Rota is also home to several endangered flora that exist only on Rota and nowhere else in the world. Rota also has major historical sites that define the island's history more clearly than the neighboring islands. That includes is pictograph similar to those found in Europe dating back thousands of years ago. The topography of the island is totally different and unique within the inhabited islands and appears from a distance like a step to the heavens. On the top, you can see Guam, Agrigan, Tin-

The United States Supreme Court upheld section 514 and concluded that a nonresident serviceman was exempted from taxation of his personal property from his host state. The Court affirmed that the Civil Relief Act was to prevent a nonresident serviceman from paying personal property and income tax in conjunction with military orders in the host state.

Servicemen may be required to register their cars and obtain license plates in host States *if they do not do so in their home states*, and "may be required to pay all taxes essential thereto." Pp 382 U.S. 391-392

According to my understanding of the above provision, our service members from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands have the option to register their private vehicles (private property) under the section 514 of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940. All active duty members from the CNMI were being forced to pay for their vehicle registration in their host state, because the CNMI had not recognized the right of our service members under the Soldiers and Sailors Act of 1940. Senate Bill 18-02 will afford our active duty members to show off our dearest island chain and they are given the opportunity not to pay other states' outrageous vehicle registration fees.

Segundo Castro

Marpo Valley, Tinian

ian, and Saipan. You cannot see the same from any of the inhabited islands including Guam.

The congressman's plan is well placed with good reasons. He mentioned "eco-tourism." Of course, the most appropriate activity for the island. Why? Eco-tourism is an activity that promotes the conservation of wildlife resources, both fauna and flora, both marine based or land based. And it provides for the wellbeing of the people within the community. Finally, it contributes positively to the economy as a whole—a truly wise idea. Our congressman is truly working for the good of the Commonwealth and her people. This is just one example. We should all support him on this one and on many other that only points to the people being the winner. Let's be guided by reason and good moral values and not by envy, hate, and the like that always appear among the people. Grow up!

Frank M. Atalig

Sinapalo Village, Rota

REALITY

From Page 10

one and all applicants. This is how corruption is fertilized, hatched, and nurtured until it turns wildly out of control. Was hoping for some sense of humility, integrity, and equilibrium in the maintenance of the bar in place before its mutilation in recent days.

Is this part and whole of their perception of strengthening our democratic institutions in genuine self-government? Or is it more of moral decay and depravity! It's the birth of kleptocracy!

It's a dangerous scourge of contemporary NMI that "systematically undermines the public interest, accentuate disparities, and sap innovative and entrepreneurial impulses — while also subverting governance," according to the director of Asian Studies, Temple University, Japan.

"Comprising the corrupt networks of power relations among politicians, and the institutionalized pilfering by those with favored access, it is a system in which connections matter more than merit. Government officials and politicians use their positions to bestow lucrative favors on relatives and cronies, not only to enrich them and take a cut but also to nurture a supportive oligarchy that devel-

ops a shared interest in sustaining the entire system.

"Selling access, sweetheart deals, insider information, licenses, monopolies, privileges, regulatory manipulation, cooking the books, and legal shenanigans are all tools of this systematic plundering for private benefit."

Hello! Anybody home?

Whenever we're slammed squarely on the ground biting more dust than our share, we resort to local resiliency to reset our clock and start anew. This is the norm each time the economy takes a turn for the worse.

The simple folks turn to traditional mode of life: farming and fishing! I've seen our return to this familiar ground, time and again, over the years. It's a repetitive tale that perhaps it's timely to dedicate local and federal resources to improve farming and fishing beyond the Sabalu Market.

The two sectors require visionaries who could organize how the NMI takes both beyond conventional wisdom, including use of applied technology in Japan, the Philippines, and Thailand to bring traditional farming and fishing to the more relevant level.

It's a must agenda to improve production in areas that did superbly well before the atrocities of WWII. Why must the NMI per-

petuate outmoded production in these two sectors?

Funds from illegal fishing

The Department of Lands and Natural Resources collects about \$300,000 to \$400,000 in fines from illegal fishing. The money is remitted DNLR who in turn uses it as it sees fit.

DNLR established a grants program for entrepreneurship in fishing. Interestingly, the recipients are mostly the board members who know of the existence of such funds. The decision by DNLR to dispose of the funds at will are, in my view, highly inappropriate.






There's the constitutional authority limiting appropriation of funds to the House of Representatives. Next, there's the absence of procurement regulations announcing availability of these funds and other pertinent regulations. In short, the funds should be considered part of NMI resources.

It's up to the House of Representatives to take an ocular review of these funds and dispose of it the way it sees fit. The secretary of DNLR was never constitutionally or statutorily authorized unilateral appropriation of any of the NMI's financial resources. This must go through the regular appropriation process, pure and simple. The House must probe how these funds were used in recent past.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

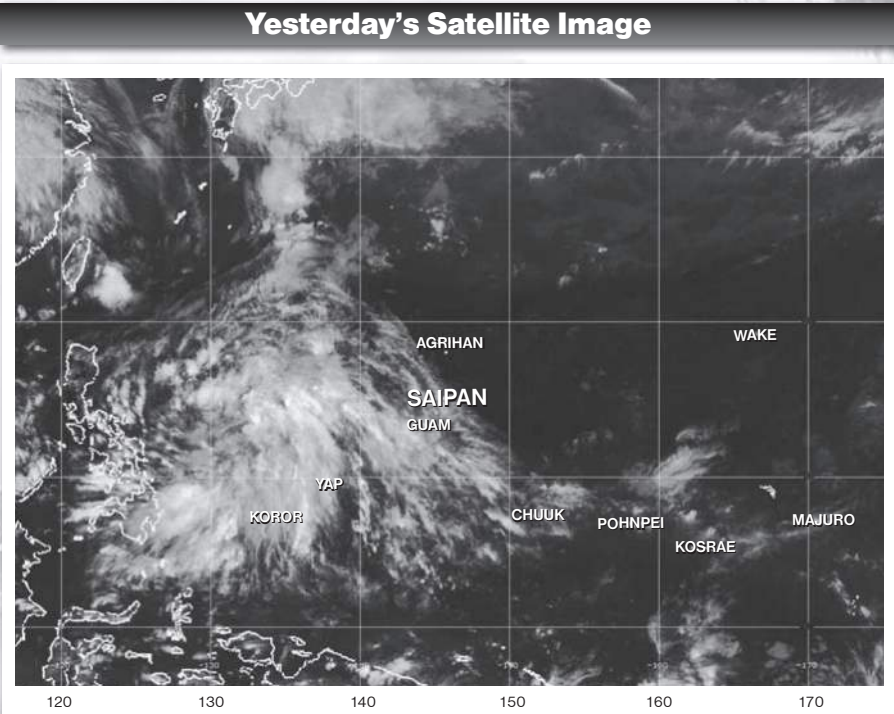
5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
				
Partly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 88° ▼ 78°	▲ 88° ▼ 78°	▲ 88° ▼ 78°	▲ 88° ▼ 77°	▲ 88° ▼ 77°

Micronesia		
Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 90 ▼ 82
Palau	Showers	▲ 88 ▼ 76
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲ 92 ▼ 78
Chuuk	Showers	▲ 87 ▼ 80
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 79
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 79
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲ 87 ▼ 80

Around The Globe		
Auckland	Sunny	▲ 61 ▼ 50
Beijing	Thunderstorms	▲ 80 ▼ 67
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲ 87 ▼ 83
Honolulu	Sunny	▲ 84 ▼ 72
London	Sunny	▲ 70 ▼ 51
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 73 ▼ 62
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 92 ▼ 81
Melbourne	Rain	▲ 58 ▼ 41
Miami	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 77
New York	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 70 ▼ 62
Osaka	Sunny	▲ 82 ▼ 63
Paris	Sunny	▲ 79 ▼ 62
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲ 76 ▼ 63
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲ 78 ▼ 62
Salem	Mostly Sunny	▲ 82 ▼ 51
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 65 ▼ 54
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲ 86 ▼ 64
Tokyo	Showers	▲ 74 ▼ 62
Washington, DC	Showers	▲ 79 ▼ 70

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
1:47 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
6:49 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
2:18 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
9:16 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 2013
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A circulation is centered northwest of Koror near 10N130E. Scattered to numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms across Palau and Yap are between 4N and 19N from 130E to 140E. The cloud shield edges over Guam with scattered showers between 7N and 14N from 140E to 146E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are also between 20N and 23N from 131E to 136E. Trade-wind convergence is triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms around Chuuk between 7N and 10N from 150E to 153E and north of Pohnpei from 8N to 11N from 158E to 162E.

Sunrise/Sunset			Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	5:46 AM	6:46 PM	Today	4:29 AM	5:36 PM
Saturday	5:46 AM	6:46 PM	Saturday	5:15 AM	6:25 PM
Sunday	5:46 AM	6:46 PM	Sunday	6:03 AM	7:13 PM
Monday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM	Monday	6:51 AM	7:59 PM
Tuesday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM	Tuesday	7:40 AM	8:44 PM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 23, 2013						
DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS		
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN		
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7	UA 5069	2:45am 3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5	UA5071	7:15am 8:05am	Daily
UA5068	8:35am	9:25am	Daily	UA5073	10:00am 10:50am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA5074	11:20am	12:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA5075	1:45pm 2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily	UA5077	5:35pm 6:25pm	Daily
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily	UA5079	8:20pm 9:10pm	Daily
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily	ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN		
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				UA5062	3:45am 4:20am	1, 3, 5
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily	UA5038	11:15am 11:50am	6
DL297	4:35pm	7:25pm	Daily	NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN		
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				DL298	10:25am 3:05pm	Daily
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	1, 4, 5, 7	DL288	8:15pm 12:50am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN		
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1	OZ607	9:05pm 1:55am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN		
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily	OZ603	8:50am 2:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				OZ605	7:40pm 1:10am+1	7
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	OZ605	8:15pm 1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN		
MU764	4:10am	8:00am	1, 5	3U8647	10:40pm 5:00am+1	1, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN		
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	MU763	7:55pm 3:10am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-KHABAROVSK (KHV)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN		
SYL9950	6:40pm	1:30am+1	7	3U8645	7:40pm 3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)				KHABAROVSK (KHV)-SAIPAN		
XF1734	4:15pm	10:30pm	4 Every other week eff May 16	SYL9949	12:45pm 5:20pm	7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)-SAIPAN		
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	XF1733	11:20am 3:25pm	4 Every other week eff May 16
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN		
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	6 via GUM	PR110/UA5072	7:55am 6:25pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5062/191	4:50am	9:55am	3 via GUM	DL172/288	8:00am 12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
DL287/173	6:05am	10:05pm	Daily via NRT	UA190/5077	10:55am 6:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA5068/PR111	8:35am	4:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	UA190/5079	10:55am 9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
US5074/PR111	11:20am	4:35pm	1, 5, 7 via GUM	OZ702/605	12:15pm 1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM	OZ702/605	12:15pm 1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/5071	10:55pm 8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN	OZ704/603	11:45pm 2:20pm	Daily via ICN
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				UA184/5071	11:35pm 8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN		
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ746/603	12:30am 2:20pm	Daily via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	OZ722/605	1:10pm 1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ604/745	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN	OZ722/605	1:10pm 1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
				UA180/5071	10:45pm 8:05am+1	1, 5 via GUM
				UA180/5071	10:50pm 8:05am+1	3, 6 GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE							
Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
RE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
RE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
RE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan							
RE 1750	17:50	18:20	Daily	Tinian-Saipan			
Saipan-Rota				FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
RE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
RE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
RE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
RE 400				FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
RE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
RE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
RE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
RE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily
RE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily				
RE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily				

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 - SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
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- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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 - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
 - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
 - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
 - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
- For announcements:**
 - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.



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- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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Trauma-informed care: Why spirituality?

Like politics, spirituality (call it religion, if you must) is often put in the category of things-not-to-talk-about, at least not in the context of a federally funded job or much less an op-ed written on the federal dime—it's become taboo, if you will. But the thing is, taboo creates silence and perpetuates secrets and we know how that can affect our peers with mental illness.

Whether we want to talk about it or not, religion and spirituality have a profound impact that can affect trauma healing and so we should speak about it because for many of our peers it is relevant; in fact people will often turn to their religious/spiritual leaders for help before seeking other care. Besides, what is so wrong with people wanting to connect with something bigger than themselves?

With respect to trauma, I dare say that people can not heal sufficiently without some sense of spirituality and if we fail to consider that then we fail to access one of life's inherent sources for healing.

Trauma is relative, but nonetheless a good predictor for life's outcome. Depending on the extent of the trauma, its impact is so broad and diverse that it can rear its head in just about every domain of a victim's life. All too often, victims turn to substance abuse (marked by generalized depression) to numb their pain. Some become angry or overly aggressive toward others, promising to never be a victim again. But wouldn't it be nice if instead all victims simply turned to the power of

a higher being for a sense of empowerment? Ultimately, understanding the impact of trauma is at the foundation of appropriate care.

It's this power of traumatic events in people's lives that is often missed by our systems of care such that service providers will recreate the trauma of an experience by their actions. And so, "the cycle" repeats itself, but not in the way we think and not because it can't be broken, but because victims are often re-victimized in the course of their reaching out for help—"we lock them up, tie them down and medicate them into submission." Since most trauma survivors are often abused by people they trusted, they are often left not knowing who they can trust. As service providers we have to work to earn that trust. If nothing else, "instead of asking what's wrong with a person, ask what might have happened to him."

For advocates at the Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc., the faces of post-trauma are all too familiar. We are no longer shocked when people approach us with an aggressive demeanor and are espousing violent ideologies ("in a loud voice", if you will). Sometimes we can make a positive difference by simply listening—we are rarely the experts in any given situation, but we hold strong in the belief that "no matter how vulnerable, every person deserves to be the central director of his or her own life"...come what may.

At any given time, even the closest people to us can be suffering

By **JIM RAYPHAND**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jim Rayphand is the executive director of the Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems Inc., more popularly known as NMPASI.



from the underlying effects of trauma and we'd never know it (or at least we might not understand it); nonetheless, recovery is possible through our actions bearing in mind that, "To the world we may be one person, but to one person we may be the world." Sometimes what it takes is hope, the confident expectation of something better to come—some might call that faith.

For more on the rights and/or needs of individuals with mental illness or other disabilities, please contact NMPASI at (670) 235-7273/4 [voice] / 235-7275 [fax] / 235-7278 [tty] or via the internet at www.nmpasi.com.

Note: The above was written in conjunction with NMPASI's Annual Statement of Goals and Priorities at a cost to the Protection & Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness program of approximately \$125.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Don't betray your people, senators

It is clear my 7-year-old prediction of how they would force casinos down our throats but this is one prediction I am praying won't come true. Now the Senate is posed to vote again on a casino bill. Senators, don't betray your people because I can promise you will not get re-elected if you approve the bill. The people *are* not dumb and they know that Saipan casinos is going to kill any hope for the outer islands to ever take a front seat in our tourist industry. The Tinian and Rota senators' first obligation is to the people of their district so don't betray them and all the senators know the majority have spoken and said no!

The wisdom and respect of the Senate may be our only hope of preventing this catastrophe to the outer islands and to the communi-

ty of Saipan, as they have saved us twice. The senators who support the bill will be gambling and putting their political real estate at risk along with those in the Lower House who approved the bill. This casino bill will be selling out the entire future foundation for the development of industries in the CNMI without the approval of the people, which is totally disrespectful of present and future citizens.

The people have spoken *twice* in an official capacity on Saipan casinos! Why can't you respect the people you work for and move on to something new and even better! From what I can tell, the people want the casinos on the outer islands and the development of the tourists and production industries on Saipan. If I can see this, certainly our leaders should *know* this is what the people want but they are acting like they don't know. Who is going to lead us in a new direction away from Saipan casinos on the Hill remains to be seen, which is why the casino issue is still alive. It seems that no one is willing to lead the CNMI in a different direction and maybe they don't even know how and where to take us but there are plenty of options and I know there are much better options than casinos on Saipan.

People are not stupid and have not forgotten all the different rea-

sons—or should I say *excuses*—for casinos on Saipan that ranged from education to land compensation. Now they have another excuse, with the Retirement Fund being used like a pry-bar to get casinos and the Fund's life to avoid the people's approval so they can force it down our throats, like I predicted. People need to know that letting the Fund go down was all part of the plan to force casinos, I have the proof. We might get a casino bill passed but I can tell you, given the last election, the people are going to vote out those who disrespected their two previous decisions to vote down Saipan casinos.

For a decade there has been one leader after another trying to figure out a way to betray the majority who already voted Saipan casinos down. Please start doing your homework representatives and senators to find new alternative industries to revive our economy and, if you need help, give me a call.

P.S.: The sale of hotels and resorts with a progressive property on these properties only is still the best solution to saving the Fund and it still allows for continuous revenues from the properties.

Ambrose M Bennett



Kagman, Saipan



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Two batches graduate from computer fixing class

By REINA S. PEREZ
STUDENT REPORTER

The Saipan Building and Fixing Computer Users Group held graduation rites for two batches on Saturday, June 1, at the Mina-

tchom Atdao pavilion in Susupe.

Twelve students graduated from the class Basic Electricity Batch 1. The instructor for this class was Rolando Vicencio. The class took place from April 14 to May 19 every Sunday

from 9am to noon.

Eighteen students graduated from the class Basic Computer Operations 2. The instructors were Amado Tumbaga, Carlos Cortez, and Esperanza Jaro. The class took place from April 14

to May 19 every Sunday from 1pm to 4pm.

The group's president, Zaldy Quebral, said he is grateful to all volunteer instructors as he knows how much preparation they go through before teaching the class.

His congratulatory message to the instructors was: "We are not supposed to stop from learning. More green card holders and U.S. citizens are becoming our students. We can say we have set a good example

by educating our *kababayans* [compatriots] and also the kids of our *kababayan*."

Quebral says that it is good to see the children of students and members taking advantage of this free skills upgrading program.

The group also thanks Nestor Tumaquip for accommodating the group for classes at his San Vicente home every weekend and the United Filipino Organization for its support.

According to Mar Masilungan, founding chairman of the group, the SBFCUG is still looking for a bigger center to "expand and be a channel of blessings to everyone that needs [the] group services."

The group's next classes are Basic Electronics Batch 2 on June 23 from 9am to noon and Building and Fixing Computer Batch 1 on the same day from 1pm to 4pm.

Building Safety Code relocates

The Building Safety Code Division of the Department of Public Works will be relocating to the ground floor of the Island Commercial Center in Gualo Rai across the Shell Gas Station-Triple J Tire and Lube and will be in operation at the new office location effective Monday, June 17, 2013. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Saipan Building and Fixing Computer Users Group of the United Filipino Organization hold graduation rites for two batches on Saturday, June 1, at the Minatchom Atdao pavilion in Susupe.



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* Kia Rio retail price \$16,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of \$269.22 or \$124.25 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$16,153.20.
** Kia Forte LX retail price \$18,495.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of \$292.98 or \$135.22 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$17,578.80.
Documentation fees and registration not included.



The Power to Surprise



PEN SET RETURNED TO OWNER'S FAMILY

After nearly two years, a pen set found at the Tanapag Mass Grave on Saipan during Phase III of the recovery of remains of Japanese World War II Dead in September 2011 was transferred to the Consular Office of Japan. The pen set will be returned to the surviving family member of the pen owner. Here, Consul of Japan for the CNMI Koji Hino poses with Department of Community and Cultural Affairs acting secretary and State Historic Preservation officer Laura T. Ogumoro and Historic Preservation Office staff Mertie Kani and John Palacios after the turnover of the pen set.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

'Property Rites' on stage at MHS theater

Thespians of the Western Pacific Islands presents the play *Property Rites* by Alan Haehnel on June 11, 2013 at the MHS Dolphin Theatre (T Building). The shows will be staged at 7pm. Tickets cost \$5 for adults and \$3 for students. The cast consists of the student winners of the Thespian competitions, who will present this play at the International Thespian Festival at Lincoln, Nebraska on June 29, 2013. For more information, contact Harold Easton at Marianas High School, 285-1657. (PR)

First Friday Films celebrates oceans, surfing with new film

First Friday Films is celebrating World Oceans Day and International Surfing Day this month with a showing of the film *Keepers of the Coast* this Friday, June, 6:30pm at the American Memorial Park. Clarissa Bearden of the DEQ Water Quality branch will speak before the film about the CNMI's beach monitoring program.

First Friday Films is a partnership between American Memorial Park, the Division of Environmental Quality, Coastal Resources Management and the Humanities Council with support from other organizations. This particular film is sponsored by DEQ. As always, our film events are free and open to the public. This event will run about 70 minutes.

For more information about First Friday Films, email fff@saipan@gmail.com or check out www.firstfridayfilmssaipan.blogspot.com. (PR)

Community invited to NMC-CREES Open House

The Northern Marianas College Cooperative Research, Extension and Education Service is inviting all community members to attend its 8th Open House event on Saturday, June 15, 2013, at the Civic Center Beach, Susupe from 9am to 4:30pm. The Open House will be showcasing the various programs from NMC CREES.

The Aquaculture and Fisheries Development Program will feature fresh, homegrown shrimps for sale. The 4-H Youth Development Program will also be hosting a Youth Agricultural Fair, stage an Agro-Fashion Show, and will also be putting on a Junior Cooking Competition and a Piglet Race.

For more information about these events, contact the NMC CREES Office at 234-5498 ext. 1705. (NMC)

MHS general meeting this June 14

The Marianas High School class of 1983 would like

to invite everyone for its general meeting on June 14, 7pm at Filcam Oavilion, next to the basketball court in Susupe. The purpose of the meeting is for the distribution of the banquet tickets and T-shirts orders.

For more inquiry or information, call Tonnei Camacho at 483-9665. (PR)

Survivors, caregivers support meeting on June 20

All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the next CCA monthly support meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 20, 5:30pm at Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chamolinian Room. To RSVP or for more information, please call the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com.

CCA board meets on June 18,

The Commonwealth Cancer Association Board of Directors' will be holding its board of directors meeting on June 18, 3pm at the CCA conference room. Agenda includes reports from the president and program updates. All board meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or email at cca@ccamarianas.org. (PR)

Energy Star Rebate Program temporarily suspended

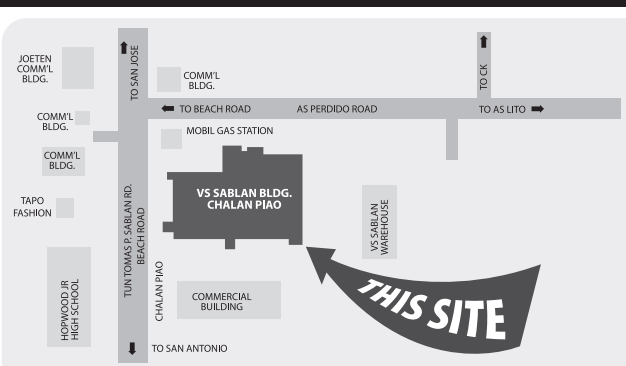
The CNMI Energy Division has temporarily suspended its Energy Star Rebate Program effective immediately until further notice. This temporary program suspension will allow the CNMI Energy Division Office to reconcile all rebate vouchers.

For more information, contact the Energy Division-Energy, Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program office at 664-4487/89/90. (PR)

NSA's 2013 Tee Ball league season

The Natibu Sports Association is looking for interested teams to participate in its upcoming 2013 Tee Ball league that is tentatively scheduled to start on Saturday, July 13. Space is limited and we will only accommodate the first eight teams that register. If you are interested, call Claire Sablan at 287-7352 to reserve a slot for your team. The first team meeting will be on Friday, June 7, at NSA's building in Tanapag village right next to the Tanapag Elementary School. The team is open to boys and girls ages 4-8. No experience is required. (PR)

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Guam sailors remember the Battle of Midway



Dozens of Sailors attend a Battle of Midway commemoration at the T. Stell Newman Visitor Center in Santa Rita June 5. During the commemoration, attendees viewed authentic historical footage from the Battle of Midway and remembered the service and sacrifice of service members who fought during World War II.

U.S. NAVY PHOTO
BY SHAINA MARIE SANTOS

was crafted, developed, and put into doctrine at the Battle of Midway."

He also detailed events of the battle and pointed to the significance of the United States' success in Midway as the turning point toward the overall victory of World War II.

"The actions taken by the individual sailors who fought in this battle, the strength of their character, and firmness of their resolve is why the battle is so significant in our history and why we commemorate it today," he said. "The Battle of Midway is the ultimate statement of our Navy professionalism and resolve and today we pause to remember and honor the spirits of those individuals and how they served with honor, courage, and commitment."

NBG Religious Programs Specialist Chief Arlene Delapena said it is important for sailors today to remember the fighting spirit of their predecessors.

"It's really important for all the sailors to get involved," she said. "The courage that each sailor [showed] during the Battle [of Midway], it's important for the sailors to know that because throughout right now, we're still fighting wars."

NBG Harbor Patrol Master-at-Arms Seaman Chandler Muszynski said he appreciated the reminder of his Naval legacy.

"As a seaman, I thought it was very important to know the facts, the history of the events," he said. "As a turning point in history, it's very important to know when we started to win the war."

By SHAINA MARIE SANTOS
JOINT REGION MARIANAS PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Dozens of Sailors packed the T. Stell Newman Visitor Center in Santa Rita, Guam to commemorate the 71st anniversary of the Battle of Midway on June 5.

Attendees viewed a short film that included authentic historical footage from the Battle of Midway and World War II. Afterward, a tour was offered of the visitor center, which holds a number of historical artifacts and displays centered on the War in the Pacific.

Capt. Mike Ward, U.S. Naval Base Guam commanding officer, offered a few remarks about the Battle of Midway. Ward said the Navy's role in the Battle of Midway serves as the foundation upon which today's carrier force is built.

"The capability that we've developed over the 70 years was born at the Battle of Midway," he said. "Carrier strike power that we employ today unlike any other country's ever seen

Guam adopts official product seal



The Guam Product Seal Task Force has adopted an official "Guam Product Seal."

This Seal will soon be placed on all products, which have been permitted under the Guam Product Seal Program.

The GPS Program was created by Public Law 18-42, and is intended to promote products that are "Made on Guam." The Seal serves as a guarantee to consumers the products are in fact made on Guam, and are of high quality.

"The Guam Product Seal gives us a sense of pride in products unique to Guam," said Gov. Eddie Baza Calvo. "This is perpetuated by our desire to share our Pacific paradise with the world."

The Guam Product Seal was designed with symbols that tell a story of our rich culture and heritage. It includes the coconut

tree symbolizing the resilience of the people of Guam and the sustenance it provides. The flying *proa* is a symbol of the ingenuity of the ancient Chamorros as it united Micronesia by the ocean. The *latte* stone serves as a reminder of the solid foundation of family, and the strength of our culture and heritage enduring through the ages.

"Having the Guam Product Seal is important for Guamanians, especially those who run a business promoting, protecting and preserving our culture," Lt. Gov. Ray Tenorio said. "The Seal is important for the Guam brand—how we market her, how we market our community."

The Guam Product Seal Program is administered by the Guam Economic Development Authority, which will begin enforcement on July 1, 2013. Permit holders will have two years from that date to adopt the new image, and incorporate it into their packaging. (PR)



PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL RFP13-DPL-127



SUBMISSION DATE: JULY 10, 2013

TIME: 2:00 P.M.

"LONG-TERM LEASE FOR PUBLIC LANDS IN MARPI AND SAN ANTONIO, SAIPAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS"

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider, through the Department of Public Lands (DPL), are soliciting sealed proposals from interested and qualified companies or individuals for the purpose of leasing and commercially developing public land as indicated below:

1. Lot Number 003 A 11, containing an area of approximately 49,500 square meters.
2. Lot Number 003 A 20, containing an area of approximately 49,505 square meters.
3. Lot Number 004 I 40, containing an area of approximately 40,827 square meters

Lots #1 & #2 are contiguous to each other and have a combined total area of 99,005 square meters, more or less, and are located in Marpi, Saipan, CNMI. Proposers have the option to select only one (1) lot, or combined both lots to prepare their proposal. Lot number 004 I 40 is located in San Antonio, Saipan

The Scope of Work, proposal instructions, maps, and other documents to complete the RFP will be available and may be picked up at the Department of Public Lands Office, located at the 2nd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building, Dandan, Saipan, during the hours of 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

Interested proposers from overseas may request the required documents by mail. A non-refundable application fee of **Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (US \$3,500.00)** is required to be paid at the time of issuance of the Scope of Work of the RFP and related documents. Payment must be by certified or cashier's check and made payable to: Department of Public Lands.

Also, request by mail for the RFP documents must be accompanied by payment of the non-refundable fee in certified or cashier's check, payable to the Department of Public Lands. Payment by mail should be sent to: Department of Public Lands, P.O. Box 500380, Saipan, MP 96950.

The RFP packet issued to proposers will be numbered for identification and shall become the property of the prospective companies or individuals, and may not be copied for distribution to other interested parties. Only those interested proposers that inquired and have paid the application fee directly to Department of Public Lands (DPL) will be issued the official RFP from DPL.

Questions regarding this project must be received **no later than the close of business, June 28, 2013** and must be submitted in writing to Mr. Pedro A. Tenorio, Acting Secretary of DPL at the following address:

Department of Public Lands
P.O. Box 500380
Saipan, MP 96950
2ND Floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building
Telephone numbers: (670) 234-3751/52/53
Facsimile number: (670) 234-3755
Email: pete.tenorio@dpl.gov.mp; rachel@dpl.gov.mp; prasa@dpl.gov.mp

Response to questions shall be shared with all prospective proposers.

DPL reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any defects if it finds that to do so is in the best interest of the public land beneficiaries. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI Government.

/S/ PEDRO A. TENORIO
ACTING SECRETARY OF PUBLIC LANDS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, PROC. & SUPPLY



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Foremost Foods reaches out to the community by raising awareness on the importance of making healthy beverage choices through the celebration of World Milk Day on June 1. World Milk Day is celebrated in many countries around the globe to recognize the benefits of drinking milk. The company served Foremost Whole Milk, Reduced Fat Milk, and Non-fat Milk in cups and in quarts to patrons of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library and World Milk Day participants on Saipan.

Foremost celebrates World Milk Day with Saipan community

Foremost Foods, Saipan, Inc. celebrated World Milk Day with the Saipan community by serving free Foremost Milk and distributing educational milk brochures during the 20th anniversary of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library on June 1.

Foremost joined hands with the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s program, "Let's Move Marianas" and the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library to celebrate World Milk Day.

Foremost CEO Marcos W. Fong says, "Foremost appreciates the partnership of Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, and the community in helping to increase awareness of the importance of making healthy beverage choices. Milk is a superior beverage that provides many health and nutritional benefits. Foremost offers whole, reduced fat, and non-fat varieties for different nutritional needs."

World Milk Day is a yearly event held in many countries worldwide under the auspices of the United Nations Food

and Agriculture Organization.

According to the FAO, "studies suggest consumption of milk and low-fat dairy products helps reduce risks of many chronic diseases and disorders. ...Milk is a highly nutritious food and an excellent source of energy, protein, vitamins and minerals."

Foremost gave patrons of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library and other participants of the World Milk Day celebration free samples of Foremost whole milk, reduced fat milk, and non-fat milk in cups and one take-home quart per family.

Foremost Foods has been a part of our regional community since 1950, providing a diverse product line including dairy, juice, ice cream and frozen novelty products. As a locally owned business, the Foremost brand and its products have become part of island life in Guam and the Marianas. Foremost expanded the line of UHT milks internationally into Macau, China. For more information, log on to www.coke-foremost.com. (PR)

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Business

Fed survey: Growth improves modestly throughout US

WASHINGTON (AP)—A Federal Reserve survey says economic growth increased throughout the United States from April through late-May, fueled by home construction, consumer spending and steady hiring.

Eleven of the Fed's banking districts reported "modest to moderate" economic growth,

according to the Beige Book survey released Wednesday. The 12th, in Dallas, reported strong growth.

The survey is based on anecdotal reports. The mostly favorable results of the latest survey suggest that the economy and the job market are improving despite tax increases and government spending cuts that took

effect this year.

But the modest or moderate improvement reported for most regions appears to fall short of the strong and sustained growth that several Fed members have said is needed before the Fed starts tapering its bond purchases. Those purchases have helped keep interest rates at record lows.

"The Fed's Beige Book

wasn't too downbeat, but it wasn't too upbeat either," said Jennifer Lee, senior economist at BMO Capital Markets. "It points to generally modest growth in the second quarter." Manufacturing activity expanded in 10 districts, the survey noted. But there were concerns that government spending cuts might slow factory activity, particularly in defense industries. Most districts reported

gains in consumer spending during the survey period, but some said colder weather had slowed retail sales.

Home sales and prices increased throughout the country, and several districts noted that buyers were receiving multiple offers. Auto sales kept rising, too, although some districts reported shortages of used cars for sale.

Hiring was described as rising at a "measured pace," with

a few districts reporting pockets of stronger activity.

The Fed has been assessing the job market's health in considering when to start scaling back its support for the economy, including \$85-billion-a-month in Treasury and mortgage bond purchases. The information from the latest Beige Book will be discussed along with other economic data at the Fed's next policy meeting on June 18-19.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Court: Girls can buy morning-after pill for now

NEW YORK (AP)—Girls of any age can buy generic versions of emergency contraception without prescriptions while the federal government appeals a judge's ruling allowing the sales, a federal appeals court said Wednesday. The order, the latest in a series of rulings in a complex back-and-forth over access to the drug, was met with praise from advocates for girls' and women's rights and scorn from social conservatives and other opponents, who argue the drug's availability takes away the rights of parents of girls who could get it without their permission. The brief order issued by the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Manhattan permitted two-pill versions of emergency contraception to immediately be sold without restrictions, but the court refused to allow unrestricted sales of Plan B One-Step until it decides the merits of the government's appeal. It did not specify why the two-pill versions were being allowed now, though it said the government failed to meet the requirements

necessary to block the lower-court decision.

SEC considers tougher rules for money funds

WASHINGTON (AP)—Investors could lose principal from money market investment funds that perform poorly under regulations proposed Wednesday by the Securities and Exchange Commission. But the change would affect mainly institutional rather than individual investors. The SEC voted 5-0 to advance the plan, which would require shares of some money-market funds to "float", instead of having a fixed value of \$1 per share. The proposal failed to gain support last year but has since won the backing of a panel of regulators that include Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke. The agency also proposed new fees on withdrawals from funds if their assets that can be readily converted into cash fall below a certain level. Both changes are intended to better inform investors and protect the industry from risks that surfaced at the height of the 2008 financial crisis.

Report: Govt scooping up Verizon phone records

WASHINGTON (AP)—The National Security Agency currently is collecting the telephone records of millions of U.S. customers of Verizon under a top secret court order, Britain's Guardian newspaper said Wednesday.

The order was granted by the secret Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court on April 25 and was good until July 19, the newspaper said. The order requires Verizon, one of the nation's largest telecommunications companies, on an "ongoing, daily basis" to give the NSA information on all telephone calls in its systems, both within the U.S. and between the U.S. and other countries.


The newspaper said the document, a copy of which it had obtained, shows for the first time that under the Obama administration the communication records of millions of U.S. citizens were being collected indiscriminately and in bulk, regardless of whether they were suspected of any wrongdoing.

The Associated Press could not authenticate the order because documents from the court are classified.

Verizon spokesman Ed McFadden said Wednesday the company had no comment. The White House declined comment and referred questions to the NSA. The NSA had no immediate comment.

Under the terms of the order, the phone numbers of both parties on a call are handed over, as is location data, call duration, unique identifiers, and the time and duration of all calls. The contents of the conversation itself are not covered, The Guardian said.

The broad, unlimited nature of the records being handed over to the NSA is unusual. FISA court orders typically direct the production of records pertaining to a specific named target suspected of being an agent of a terrorist group or foreign state, or a finite set of individually named targets. NSA warrantless wiretapping during the George W. Bush administration after the 9/11 attacks was very controversial.



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

SECOND AMENDED REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Procurement and Delivery of Thirty (30) Proximity Fire Coats and Proximity Fire Pants for the Saipan International Airport Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting (ARFF) Department

Project No. CPA-RFP-005-13

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting for sealed proposals for procurement and delivery of thirty (30) brand new Globe G-XCEL Proximity Jacket and thirty (30) Globe Proximity Fire Pants to the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Department at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

All responses to this RFP shall also take into account any and all shipping and handling charges and taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract, including excise tax. Size information can be picked up at the CPA Administration Office, 2nd floor of the Saipan International Airport's Arrival Terminal. Additional details are as follows:

Globe G-XCEL Proximity Jacket <ol style="list-style-type: none"> NFPA Compliant Up to 32" Length Seven (7) ounce PBI/Kevlar Aluminized Outer Shell 82 Aralite NP Quilt Thermal Liner Stedair Moisture Barrier Hook and Dee Rings on Inside/Velcro Outer Closure Cargo/Hand warmer Pockets, 2"x 8"x 8" Self-Material Reinforced Elbows PBI Hand and Wrist Guards 13P Radio Pocket on Left Chest, 3"x 3.5"x 9" with Antenna Notch on Left Side DRD Drag Rescue Device Telescoping Cuffs AXTION Sleeve Thermally Enhanced Upper Body and Elbows 7.5" Long Throat Tab All other standard features of the G-X-CEL Up to Size 58 	Globe Proximity Fire Pants <ol style="list-style-type: none"> NFPA Compliant Seven (7) Ounce PBI/Kevlar Aluminized Outer Shell 82 Aralite Thermal Liner Stedair Moisture Barrier 6" Back Bib 2"x 10" x 10" Cargo Pockets Expansion Knees Flared Leg Design Arashield Cuffs Reverse Boot Cut Replaceable Self Material Knees with Sewn on Frame "H" Back Suspenders Up to Size 58
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CPA will not accept any substitutions to the specified jackets and pants. Proposers shall submit based on the specifications listed above only. Any proposals with substitutions will not be entertained.

One original and three copies of proposal must be in a sealed envelope marked with the respective RFP description and submitted to the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd floor of the Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, no later than **4:30 p.m., Monday, June 10, 2013.**

The proposals shall include the following:

- Letter of Interest;
- Delivery timeframe;
- Cost Proposal (in itemized scope of work format); and
- Valid CNMI Business License.


Inquiries regarding this Request for Proposals shall be delivered to the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority at the Saipan International Airport, faxed to (670) 234-5962 or emailed to cpa.admin@pticom.com by no later than **Friday, May 24, 2013.**

This procurement is made in accordance with the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations. CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.


/s/ JOSE R. LIFOI FOI
Board Chairman/Contracting Officer

May 22, 2013
Date



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

Tel. (670) 234-6866/234-9447/234-7689/234-7670 - Fax. (670) 234-9021
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp



AUCTION NOTICE

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC), as auctioneer and seller, hereby gives notice that all the rights, title and interests of NMHC in and to the following described real property will be sold at auction:

LOT NO.: 017 D 27	JUDGE WAY, GARAPAN	MINIMUM BID: \$ 56, 800.00
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The auction will be open to the general public and will be held at NMHC's conference room, Garapan, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, June 21, 2013, subject to the following terms and conditions:

- Minimum Bid.** The minimum acceptable bid for each property shall be \$56,800.00.
- Reserve.** The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of NMHC as Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, NMHC shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
 - To withdraw any property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject any and all bids.
- Bids.** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Mr. Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director, NMHC, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950; Telephone: 234-6866; Facsimile: 234-9021; or to Law Office of F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
- Deposit; Payment.** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale by cash, cashier's check or credit card (Visa or Mastercard). The remaining balance will be due within three (3) calendar days of the auction sale. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within three (3) calendar days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will automatically revert to NMHC.
- Change of Terms.** NMHC reserves the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
- Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. The interests of NMHC in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property or any related documents will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.
- Lease with Option to Purchase.** NMHC gives notice that it will also consider bids or offers to lease the property, subject to the following additional terms and conditions:
 - The Lease Price bid shall not be less than the listed Minimum Bid price.
 - An up-front payment of ten percent (10%) of the Lease Price must be paid upon award by cash, cashier's check or credit card (Visa or Mastercard).
 - The balance of the Lease Price shall accrue interest at six percent (6%) per annum.
 - Monthly payments of the Lease will be considered rental payments only and not installments toward purchase and shall not grant the lessee any equity or ownership interest in the property or be construed in any way to encumber NMHC's rights, title and interest in the property beyond the granting of a lease for a specific term of years.
 - Maximum acceptable Lease term shall be thirty (30) years.
 - A lease agreement will be given upon receipt of the up-front payment and shall include:
 - No alterations or improvements without the prior written consent of NMHC.
 - Lessee to insure property and improvements during the Lease term.
 - Lessee responsible for all utilities and other charges associated with the property.
 - Lease not to be assigned or mortgaged without prior written consent of NMHC.
 - Failure to make a monthly payment grounds for termination and eviction.
 - Lease may, at the request of lessee, contain an Option to Purchase provision exercisable upon: (A) payment in full of the Lease Price; (B) the Lease not having been declared to be in default; and (C) payment of \$100.00 option consideration. If the option is properly exercised, a quitclaim deed will be given.
 - In the event of competing lease bids, greater weight will be given to the leasehold offer with the better price, shorter term and larger monthly payments.

Dated this 17 day of May, 2013.

/s/Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation

Nation

Obama names outspoken Rice as his security adviser



President Barack Obama listens as UN Ambassador Susan Rice, his choice to be his next National Security Adviser, speaks in the Rose Garden at the White House in Washington, Wednesday, June 5, 2013, where the president made the announcement. Samantha Power, his nominee to be the next UN Ambassador is at left.

WASHINGTON (AP)—Defying Republican critics, President Barack Obama named outspoken diplomat Susan Rice as his national security adviser Wednesday, giving her a larger voice in U.S. foreign policy despite accusations that she misled the nation in the aftermath of the deadly attack on Americans in Benghazi, Libya.

The appointment, along with the nomination of human rights advocate Samantha Power to replace Rice as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, signals a shift by Obama toward advisers who favor more robust American intervention overseas for humani-

tarian purposes. But it's unclear whether that philosophy will alter the president's policies in Syria, where he has resisted pressure to use U.S. military force to stem that country's civil war.

Rice's appointment provides a measure of redemption after the contentious Benghazi investigations forced her from consideration as Obama's second-term secretary of state. The president, who vigorously defended Rice from the GOP criticism at the time, lauded his close friend Wednesday as a "patriot who puts her country first."

"Susan is a fierce champion for justice and human de-

centry. But she's also mindful that we have to exercise our power wisely and deliberately," Obama said in a White House Rose Garden ceremony.

The 48-year-old Rice takes the influential national security post in the president's inner circle from Tom Donilon, who is stepping down in July after more than four years in the Obama White House. The president credited Donilon with having "shaped every single national security policy of my presidency," including the renewed U.S. focus on the Asia-Pacific region and the tricky American relationship with Russia.

14th survivor pulled from rubble of collapse

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Searchers combing through the debris of a collapsed building and the remains of a damaged Salvation Army thrift store pulled a woman from the rubble late Wednesday, a glimmer of hope after officials said at least six people had been killed and 13 others injured.

Deputy Fire Chief Robert Coyne said early Thursday that 61-year-old Myra Plekam was pulled—alert and talking to her rescuers—before she was put in an ambulance and taken to a nearby hospital.

Her condition was not immediately released.

It was a quick burst of joy and

optimism among the numerous firefighters, police and others slowly and steadily digging through the debris that burst forth when a building that was being torn down collapsed with a thunderous boom Wednesday, raining bricks on the thrift store.

Earlier, a somber Mayor Michael Nutter said those who died were one man and five women but authorities still didn't know how many people had been in the store or on the sidewalk when the accident happened.

Early reports had been that one woman had died in the Wednesday morning accident, but rescuers using buckets and their bare hands to move

bricks and rubble kept working through the evening, removing body bags at night. Nutter said the city's emergency workers had been "diligent, determined, focused" in their rescue efforts.

"If anyone else is in that building, they will find them," he said.

One woman was pulled from the rubble of the Salvation Army thrift store two hours after the 10:45 a.m. collapse when rescuers heard her voice, city fire Commissioner Lloyd Ayers said. About 40 percent of the collapse area remained to be searched, and rescuers were prepared to dig through the rubble all night looking for victims and survivors, he said.

TSA drops plan to allow small knives on planes

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Transportation Security Administration is abandoning a plan to allow passengers to carry small knives, souvenir bats, golf clubs and other sports equipment onto planes in the face of fierce congressional and industry opposition, the head of the agency said Wednesday.

By scuttling the plan to drop the knives and sports equipment from TSA's list of prohibited items, the agency can

focus its attention on other priorities, including expanding its Pre-Check program to identify ahead of time travelers who don't pose a security risk, TSA Administrator John Pistole told The Associated Press.

Pistole had unveiled the proposal to loosen the rules for carry-ons in March, saying the knives and other items can't enable terrorists to cause a plane to crash. He said intercepting them takes time that

would be better used searching for explosives and other more serious threats. TSA screeners confiscate over 2,000 of the small folding knives a day from passengers.

Skeptical lawmakers, airlines, labor unions and some law enforcement groups complained that the knives and other items in the hands of the wrong passengers could be used to injure or even kill passengers and crew.

Asia

Koreas agree to hold talks on reopening complex

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North and South Korea have agreed to hold talks on reopening a jointly run factory complex and possibly other issues, a hopeful sign for ending deteriorating relations that comes just as China and the U.S. prepare for a summit where the North is expected to be a key topic.

North Korea said Thursday it is open to holding talks with South Korea on reopening the Kaesong complex just north of the Demilitarized Zone separating the countries. South Korea's Unification Ministry said in a text message that it "positively accepts" the North's announcement and will announce the date and agenda of talks later.

The decade-old complex, the product of an era of inter-Korean cooperation, shut down gradually this spring after Pyongyang cut border communications and access, then pulled the complex's 53,000 North Korean workers. The last of hundreds of South Korean managers at Kaesong left last month.

The Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of Korea in Pyongyang announced the regime's willingness to hold talks in a statement carried by state media. The committee handles relations with Seoul. The statement was the North's first public response to Seoul's proposal in April to hold government-level talks to discuss the factory complex.

The authoritarian country's isolation has grown since a satellite launch in December, viewed as an effort to test its long-range missile technology, and since it conducted a nuclear test in February. Pyongyang was enraged by the United Nations Security Council sanctions those actions brought, and further angered by U.S.-South Korean military drills that the allies call routine but that the North claims are invasion rehearsals. Pyongyang earlier this year threatened nuclear attacks on Seoul and Washington.

The North Korean statement comes after Choe Ryong Hae, the North's top political officer, met with Chinese leader

Xi Jinping in Beijing in late May and said that Pyongyang was "willing to accept the suggestion of the Chinese side and launch dialogue with all relevant parties." China shares much of America's frustration over North Korea's nuclear ambitions but is concerned about keeping its neighbor and ally stable.

Xi is meeting President Barack Obama in California on Friday, and Koh Yu-hwan, a North Korea expert at Seoul's Dongguk University, said Pyongyang's announcement is timed for those talks.

"North Korea is making it easier for China to persuade the U.S. to get softer on Pyongyang," Koh said.

The North's statement Thursday proposed talks not only about Kaesong, but about resuming cross-border tours suspended since 2008, and restarting the reunions of families divided since the Korean War. It added that the North could restore its Red Cross communication line with South Korea in their truce village if Seoul agrees to talks.

New Pakistan PM vows better economy, end to drones

ISLAMABAD (AP)—As he stepped into the prime minister's job for the third time Wednesday, Nawaz Sharif vowed to improve Pakistan's limping economy and end American drone strikes. It was a nod to the voters who elected a man viewed as a pro-business conservative to tackle problems including a fiscal meltdown, power outages and spillover from the war in neighboring Afghanistan.

His success in an office he was forced out of by a military coup in 1999 will hinge on how quickly he can address Pakistanis' most basic needs such as electricity and jobs, but many analysts believe his strong mandate at least gives him a fighting chance at success.

Sharif, whose party won the

May 11 nationwide elections, was formally chosen by parliament and sworn in by Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari on Wednesday.

In a speech long on rhetoric but short on specifics, Sharif vowed to address the myriad of problems facing the country of 180 million people, including unemployment, electricity blackouts, inflation, corruption, a disillusioned youth and extremism and lawlessness.

"I will do my best to change the fate of the people and Pakistan," he said.

Sharif is the first Pakistani leader to serve three terms. He was elected prime minister in 1990 and again in 1997. He then was ousted by a military coup in 1999, spent nearly eight years in exile, then five years in opposition before re-

turning to power.

During the campaign, he sometimes lashed out at the U.S. and its policy of using drones to kill militants in the tribal areas of Pakistan. Speaking to parliament after being elected, he once again called for an end to the drone policy.

"This daily routine of drone attacks, this chapter shall now be closed," Sharif said to widespread applause. "We do respect others' sovereignty. It is mandatory on others that they respect our sovereignty."

But he gave few details on how he might end the strikes. Many in Pakistan say the strikes kill large numbers of innocent civilians—something the U.S. denies—and end up breeding more extremism by those seeking retribution.

ASIAN BRIEFS

450 garment factory workers fall ill in Bangladesh

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP)—About 450 garment workers fell ill during their shifts at a sweater factory near Bangladesh's capital, and authorities said Thursday the water supply was suspected. Investigators from the government's health ministry were testing the water at the Starlight Sweater Factory for possible contamination, area civil surgeon Syed Habibullah said. The sick workers suffered vomiting, nausea and upset stomachs starting about two hours into their shifts Wednesday. Habibullah said they were given mainly saline at hospitals and those who were improving left by Thursday.

France's Hollande on Japan visit to

push nuke ties

TOKYO (AP)—French President Francois Hollande arrives in Japan on Thursday for a visit expected to focus on closer cooperation in nuclear energy technologies and on Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's strategies for tackling Japan's economic malaise. Hollande and Abe will hold summit talks that local media say may yield an agreement on cooperating in nuclear fuel cycle technology, next-generation reactors and decommissioning of nuclear power plants. Japan is struggling with the cleanup from meltdowns at the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant following the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami disasters, and with the suspension of its Monju fast-breeder reactor, which is meant to process spent atomic fuel.

World

Syria army deals severe blow to rebels in key town

BAALBEK, Lebanon (AP)—Syrian troops and their Lebanese Hezbollah allies captured a strategic border town Wednesday after a grueling three-week battle, dealing a severe blow to rebels and opening the door for

President Bashar Assad's regime to seize back the country's central heartland.

The regime triumph in Qusair, which Assad's forces had bombarded for months without success, demonstrates the po-

tentially game-changing role of Hezbollah in Syria's civil war. The gain could also embolden Assad to push for all-out military victory rather than participate in peace talks being promoted by the United States

and Russia.

The Shiite militant group lost dozens of fighters in the battle for Qusair, underlining its commitment in support of Assad's regime and edging the fight in Syria further into a regional sectarian conflict pitting the Middle East's Iranian-backed Shiite axis against Sunnis.

Most of the armed rebels in Syria are members of the country's Sunni Muslim majority, while Assad has retained core support among the country's minorities, including his own Alawite sect, an offshoot of Shiite Islam, along with Christians and Shiite Muslims.

The overt involvement by Hezbollah, which is heavily in-

vested in the survival of the Damascus regime, has raised tensions considerably in Lebanon, where the militants have come under harsh criticism.

The group openly celebrated Qusair's fall on Wednesday.

The White House on Wednesday night condemned the town's capture and said Hezbollah's involvement threatens Lebanon's stability.

Spokesman Jay Carney said in a statement that Assad's regime couldn't wrest control of the town alone and had to rely on help from Hezbollah. He said Syria's government must allow the U.N. and others to evacuate Qusair's wounded and provide medical treatment.

In the predominantly Shiite northeastern town of Bazzalieh, near the Lebanese city of Baalbek, Hezbollah supporters set up a check point, distributing sweets to people and firing in the air in celebration. "Today, we defeated the other Israel," declared Ali al-Bazzal, 23, waving a yellow Hezbollah flag.

In Hezbollah strongholds in southern Beirut, sounds of celebratory gunfire and fireworks rang out for two hours. "Qusair has fallen," read banners hung in the streets.

Both sides had dug in for an all-out battle for Qusair, a key crossroads town of supply lines between Damascus and western and northern Syria that had been under rebel control since early last year.

Protests unite Turks across the social spectrum

ISTANBUL (AP)—Office workers in business suits chant anti-government slogans alongside pious women wearing Muslim headscarves. Schoolchildren and bearded anarchists rub shoulders with football fans, well-heeled women in designer sunglasses and elderly couples donating food.

These disparate groups are united by alarm at what they consider unwarranted meddling and increasingly autocratic behavior by Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Turkey's most popular prime minister in decades. Even some of his supporters are joining the protests sweeping the country.

On Wednesday, thousands thronged Istanbul's central Taksim Square for a sixth straight day. Violent clashes broke out in the capital, Ankara, where riot police used tear gas and water cannon to subdue protesters. Nearly 1,000 people have been injured and more than 3,300

people detained since Friday, according to the Ankara-based Human Rights Association.

What started as an environmental outcry against plans to rip up trees in one of central Istanbul's last green spaces to make way for a shopping mall has burgeoned into the most widespread unrest Turkey has seen in decades.

"For the first time, it's everyone," said Beste Yurekli, an 18-year-old high school student helping to clean up garbage in Taksim Square's Gezi Park, where hundreds of demonstrators were camped out to try to prevent the bulldozers from moving in. "All of Turkey, we are united. We are one for the first time."

The reasons, she said, are clear.

"It's not just because of the trees. It's because we've had enough of the government. He's been acting like a dictator," she said of Erdogan.

Since coming to power in 2002, the prime minister's confidence has grown in tandem with his support, allowing him to win the 2011 election—his third consecutive victory—with nearly 50 percent of the vote. Although he has insisted his commitment to Turkey's secular traditions are unwavering, the devoutly Muslim prime minister has moved to make religion increasingly prominent.

Erdogan draws his support mainly from Turkey's large, predominantly rural, religious conservative base. In a country where the staunchly secular legacy of the modern state's founding father, Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, has been zealously upheld, his rise to power was heralded as an end to the oppression of religious Muslims, who had been banned from overt displays of their faith, such as women wearing headscarves in universities.



Kanoa Resort

Saipan

SPORTS & RECREATION MANAGER

Our Resort is looking for a qualified US worker candidate with previous Sports & Recreation management experience who is results driven and customer focused. He/she will take an active role within the management team and help direct and control the operation of the S&R Department and coordinate its activities in accordance with the Resort's business objectives.

As the Sports & Recreation Manager, the responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Leading, developing and implementing activities that appeal to a wide range of personalities and ages
- Completing needs assessments to determine what activities are needed, how often these will be offered, how seasons will affect these activities and what space or venue is required and available for participants
- Researching possible activity ideas, trying or sampling new activities and evaluating them as needed
- Creating activity schedules that reflects the Resort's needs and conceptualizing activities, which include but not limited to: kids club, sports activities, guest incentives, special packages, cultural activities, fitness center, cooperate events and tournaments
- Supervising sports and recreational staff members including lifeguards and other employees connected to the implementation of activities

Qualifications:

- Minimum Education: Associates degree in an appropriate field or equivalent years of relevant experience
- Minimum Experience: At least 3 years experience in sports and recreation, at managerial capacity, in a five-star Hotel, Club, or Resort
- Ability to work flexible hours including nights, weekends, and holidays
- Excellent communication, organizational, and multitasking skills are a must
- Team player

Interested applicants may send their applications to hr@kanoaresort.com. Application Forms may be obtained at our Security Office located at the back wing of our Resort. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than June 15, 2013. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Kanoa Resort is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.



Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950



Chief Financial Officer

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation (CHCC) is seeking the services of a Chief Financial Officer (CFO). The CFO reports to the Chief Executive Officer and has direct responsibility for receipt of all revenues and payment of funds in accordance with applicable rules and regulations. The CFO shall have at least a master in business administration degree and five years of experience in healthcare finances. The Commonwealth is proposing a two-year contract with a salary range of \$100,000 - \$150,000.

The CHCC is located in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), a United States Insular Area comprised of a group of fourteen islands in Micronesia. The CNMI population (approximately 45,000) is located on the three islands of Saipan (40,000); Tinian (2,500); and Rota (2,500).

CHCC is a newly established entity that was created by the Commonwealth Legislature to provide healthcare services in the Northern Mariana Islands. The Commonwealth Healthcare System consists of public health and behavioral services as well as an 86-bed Medicare-certified acute care hospital on the island of Saipan and clinics on both the islands of Tinian and Rota. In FY 2013, the total operating budget of the CHCC is \$31.5M. CHCC is also responsible for public health and behavioral health programs with an operating budget of about \$10M. Additional information on CHCC operations can be obtained at the website chcc.tipg.net

The CHCC is facing significant financial and operational challenges due to its newly established structure, low-income client base, and challenges of providing medical services that comply with United States healthcare standards in a remote isolated area.

Applicants must submit a CHCC employment application in addition to the provision of a resume. Employment applications can be obtained by contacting Ms. Myrna F. Boyer at myrnaf.boyer@gmail.com. Applications will be considered on an on-going basis and should be submitted to:

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Human Resources Department

Attn. Ms. Myrna F. Boyer

P.O. Box 500409 CK

Saipan, MP 96950

Off The Wall

Runner's pain is no pulled muscle; it's really a baby

DULUTH, Minn. (AP)—An aspiring half-marathon runner in Minnesota attributed her unbearable back pain to a two-hour training session. A day later, she was cradling a newborn.

Trish Staine, 33, says she had no idea she was pregnant before Monday's surprise birth. The Duluth mother of three said she hadn't gained any weight or felt fetal movement in the months before. And besides, her husband had a vasectomy.

"I said 'no, no, that's impossible,'" Staine said Wednesday from her Duluth hospital room.

"I definitely thought I was done having kids," she joked. Staine and her husband, John, have a daughter, 7, and a son, 11. She's also stepmother to John's three boys, ages 17, 19 and 20.

Staine said she ran for about two hours Sunday in preparation for the Garry Bjorklund half-marathon on June 22.

"I had a sore back Sunday evening. I had taken a hot shower and was dealing with it," Staine said. "Monday morning, I woke up and had more back pain, and as the day went on it got worse. I thought I should go to the ER. I thought I ruptured a



This undated cell phone picture provided by Trish Staine shows Staine, right, with her newborn baby, in Duluth, Minn.

disc or pulled a muscle."

But she soldiered on, watching her husband play basketball at noon and going to her daughter's short play. When Staine got home, she thought a bath might help her pain.

As she talked to her husband on the phone, Staine said her pain was becoming unbear-

able. Her husband called an ambulance.

"I felt like I was dying. I didn't know what was going on," she said.

During the emergency room examination, Staine and her husband were stunned to learn medical staff had detected a fetal heartbeat.

Banker puts up \$1M for tricky math solution

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP)—A Texas banker is upping the ante to \$1 million for whoever solves a tricky problem that's been dogging mathematicians since the 1980s.

The Providence, R.I.-based American Mathematical Society on Tuesday said \$1 million will

be awarded for the publication of a solution to the Beal Conjecture number theory problem.

Dallas banker D. Andrew Beal first offered the Beal Prize in 1997 for \$5,000. Over the years, the amount has grown.

American Mathematical Society spokesman Michael Breen

says a solution is more difficult than the one for a related problem, Fermat's Last Theorem, which didn't have a published solution for hundreds of years.

Beal is a self-taught mathematician and says he wants to inspire young people to pursue math and science.

Science & Technology

Improve online life, save money

By ANICK JESDANUN
AP TECHNOLOGY WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—As the year began, I decided I would get serious about digital clean-up—to save money and improve my online life. You can do many of these things, too.

■ REVIEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTIONS AND RECURRING PAYMENTS.

Are you still paying for an AOL account even though you can get most of its services for free? If so, you're one of about 2.6 million people who pay AOL an average of \$19 a month. But, unless you need dial-up access, you likely can cancel the charges. You won't lose access to your email and other services, which have been free since 2006.

If you have a Netflix, Hulu or other video accounts, think of how you use them. Perhaps you can drop the DVD portion of Netflix if you're mostly watching TV shows and movies over the Internet. Or if you still want the occasional DVD, you might not need a three-disc plan if the discs are continually collecting dust on a bookshelf. If you are paying for a Hulu Plus subscription, are you actually using it for viewing shows on mobile devices and other features you can't get with the free version of Hulu?

I also reduced my Internet charges by buying my own cable modem on eBay for about \$20. Rental charges would have run \$3.95 a month, or more than that one-time purchase after five

months. After that, it's nearly \$50 in annual savings.

Still have a landline phone? Perhaps you can get rid of it if you're satisfied with having just a cellphone. Keep in mind that landline phones are typically more reliable during power outages and other emergencies.

Before you finish, check your credit card bills for any recurring charges. Perhaps there's a gym membership you never use.

One final tip: If you take advantage of a free trial, such as with Hulu Plus, leave a reminder in your online calendar to check back a few days before the trial is up. That way, you can remember to cancel it if you don't want recurring charges on your credit card.

■ GO PAPERLESS.

Check the bills you get by mail each month and see which ones you can get electronically. In most cases, you can get PDF versions that resemble what you would have received on paper. It reduces clutter in my apartment, and it saves trees.

Now consider the reverse: What do you still send out by mail? Checks for rent, credit card payments and phone bills? Banks typically offer online bill-payment services for free. You save on postage and unnecessary paper, as your bank fulfills your payment requests electronically. In the rare cases where my bank can't do that, it prints out a check and mails it to the recipient.

I haven't written a single check in more than four years. In fact, I never ordered any

when I opened my bank account in 2009. If you need to attach a check to an order form or physically hand it to someone, you can simply have the check sent to you, as long as you plan ahead. That's how I got a check to submit with a passport renewal. I had it made out to "Department of State" and wrote down my address rather than the government's. It got delivered. Not sketchy at all.

While you're on a paper-free mission, you can stop some of your junk mail. Here's a government website that explains your options: <http://1.usa.gov/QXIAli>.

■ BACK UP YOUR FILES.

If you have a Mac, turn on its Time Machine function for automatic backups. For Windows computers, you often get backup-management software for free when you buy an external storage drive. That's something you'd want anyway. It doesn't make sense to back up to the same computer, as both the original and the backup would disappear if your drive breaks down.

But what if there's a fire or flooding? Your external storage drive would likely perish as well.

You can sign up for an online storage service, such as Dropbox, in which copies of files get transferred over the Internet and stored at a remote location. However, many Internet providers offer relatively low speeds for uploads, or sending files, so I limit that to the files that change most frequently.

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB13-COTA-130**

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: JULY 02, 2013
TIME: 10:30 A.M.

**“JANITORIAL AND CLEANING SERVICES FOR THE
COMMONWEALTH OFFICE OF TRANSIT AUTHORITY”**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE IMPERFECTIONS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

/S/ THOMAS J. CAMACHO
SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

**Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government**

**INVITATION TO BID
2013-CDA-01-ITB**

Submission & Opening Date: July 8, 2013 Time: 10:00 a.m.

**“SUPPLY OF APPLE IPADS MD512LL/A,
BLUETOOTH KEYBOARDS and CASES FOR CDA”**

Copies of the specifications may be picked up at the Commonwealth Development Authority Office, 2nd Floor in Oleai, Saipan during regular working hours.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/ MANUEL A. SABLAN
Executive Director

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
2013-CDA-02-RFP**

Submission Date: July 8, 2013
Time: 10:00 a.m.

“SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF COMPUTERS FOR CDA”

Copies of the specifications may be picked up at the Commonwealth Development Authority Office, 2nd Floor in Oleai, Saipan during regular working hours.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/S/ MANUEL A. SABLAN
Executive Director

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB13-DPL-128**

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: JULY 02, 2013
TIME: 10:00 A.M.

**“ANNUAL INSURANCE PREMIUMS FOR THE DEPARTMENT
OF PUBLIC LANDS SAIPAN, TINIAN AND ROTA”**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ PEDRO A. TENORIO
ACTING SECRETARY OF DPL

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
MVA-RFP-13-2321**

Closing Date: June 21, 2013 Time: 4:30 p.m.

Submit sealed proposals to: The Division of Procurement & Supply
P.O. Box 10008
Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work at the **Marianas Visitors Authority** office between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., (closed 12:00 p.m. — 1:00 p.m.) Monday to Friday, except holidays or by visiting the **MVA** website at www.mymarianas.com. Interested proposers are invited to attend a pre-proposal meeting on Friday May 31, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. at the MVA conference room in San Jose, Saipan.

/s/ HERMAN SABLAN
Director, P&S

/s/ PERRY P. TENORIO
Managing Director

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP13-OVR-125**

SUBMISSION DATE: JULY 11, 2013 TIME: 2:00 P.M.

**“STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES, A PROJECT UNDER
THE OFFICE OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION, OFFICE OF THE
GOVERNOR”**

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKAGE MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWER BASE DRIVE, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A PRE-SUBMISSION ORIENTATION THIS PROJECT WILL BE CONDUCTED AT THE OFFICE OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION, NAVY HILL, SAIPAN AT 10:00 A.M., LOCAL TIME, JUNE 26, 2013.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP ARE DUE AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, JULY 01, 2013. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS SHALL BE SHARED WITH ALL PROSPECTIVE PROPOSERS.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ MARGARITA R. OLOPATAITANO
DIRECTOR, OVR

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Life & Style

New Godzilla movie to feature Oahu scenes

HONOLULU (AP)—Oahu will be the backdrop this summer for movie scenes of a large, damage-prone star.

Warner Bros. Pictures and Legendary Pictures on Monday said filming for its new Godzilla movie is planned for the island starting July.

Studio officials have picked several locations and filmmakers should be easy to spot, Hawaii film commissioner Donne Dawson told the Honolulu Star-Advertiser (<http://bit.ly/10OdFu>).

"They'll be filming in some very public places," she said.

"The public will have no problem observing filming activity. It is not going to be hidden away in the jungle."

The monster itself may not be apparent. Godzilla will be computer-generated on screen.

"They will be doing a lot of shooting with a lot of people," Dawson said. "It's probably not going to be evident from the shooting what is actually going to take place on the screen."

Filming on the movie began March 18 in Vancouver, British Columbia, under British director Gareth Edwards, who directed the 2010 movie, "Monsters."

Art history under hammer as Berlin Wall is sold

PARIS (AP)—Pieces of the Iron Curtain's most iconic symbol, the Berlin Wall, are being put up for auction in Paris after being decorated by some of the world's top artists.

Slabs of the smooth concrete that divided East and West Berlin from 1961 until 1989 totaling 60 meters (66 yards) were given to artists including France's Daniel Buren and the late Eduardo Chillida of Spain in the 1990s to be used as canvases.

The result of their unique work is going under the hammer in central Paris on Thursday, under the title "Artists of Freedom."

CHART TOPPERS

The top 10 songs and albums on the iTunes Store for the week ending June 3, 2013:

TOP SONGS

1. "Blurred Lines (feat. T.I. & Pharrell)," Robin Thicke
2. "We Own It (Fast & Furious)," 2 Chainz & Wiz Khalifa
3. "Get Lucky (feat. Pharrell Williams)," Daft Punk
4. "Can't Hold Us (feat. Ray Dalton)," Ryan Lewis, Macklemore
5. "Come & Get It," Selena Gomez
6. "Radioactive," Imagine Dragons
7. "Just Give Me a Reason (feat. Nate Ruess)," P!nk
8. "Boys 'Round Here (feat. Pistol Annies & Friends)," Blake Shelton

TOP ALBUMS

1. "Random Access Memories," Daft Punk
2. "The Great Gatsby (Music from Baz Luhrmann's Film)," Various Artists
3. "Night Visions," Imagine Dragons
4. "Based on a True Story," Blake Shelton
5. "DNA," Little Mix
6. "The Devil Put Dinosaurs Here," Alice in Chains
7. "Almost Home EP," Kid Ink
8. "The Heist," Macklemore & Ryan Lewis
9. "The 20/20 Experience," Justin Timberlake
10. "Modern Vampires of the City," Vampire Weekend

Death Announcement Memorial Mass

In Loving Memory of

†Rita (Ilo) Sablan Figura

Born on November 9, 1941 and was called to eternal rest on April 1, 2013 in her home in Okawville, Illinois, US.

In her new life, she now joins her:

Father: †Antonio P. Sablan
Mother: †Isabel I. Sablan
Sisters: †Soledad Sablan Ada and †Alicia I. Sablan
†Nicolas P. Sablan

Step Father:

Her loving memories will forever live in the hearts of her:

Husband: Richard T. Figura
Sons: Michel and Family
Patrick and Family

Brothers and Sisters:

Gregorio & Helen Sablan and Family
Pedro & Balbina Sablan and Family
Ana Sablan and Family
Maria Sablan and Family
Antonio Sablan
Gregorio & Francisca Sablan and Family
Consolacio Sablan Ingram and Family
Edward & Delfina Manibusan and Family
Luis & Teresita Manibusan and Family
Rosa M & Francisco Salas and Family

Memorial Mass will be held in her honor at San Antonio Catholic Church on Saturday, June 8, 2013 at 8:00am. After the Holy mass, †Rita's Urn will be taken to the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery for her final resting place.

Your thoughts and Prayers is greatly appreciated from the Family.

Si Yu'us Maase and Thank You

Richard T. Figura, Michel and Patrick and their families

In Celebration of Her New Life †Shirley Saimon Bermudes

July 24, 1953 – May 30, 2013

In Her New Life, She Now Joins Her:

Husband: †Herman Reyes Bermudes

Parents: †James Saimon
†Esther Defang Saimon

Parents-in-law: †Jose Deleon Guerrero Bermudes
†Angelica Reyes Bermudes

Brother and Sisters: †Stephan Saimon, †Josephine Saimon Tagabuel, †Mercy Saimon Milia

Grandson: †Joseph J.R. B. Aldan

Reared Mother: †Rufina D. Palacios

Her memories will forever live in the hearts of her:

Daughter, Son-in-law & Grandchildren:

Patricia Bermudes/Joseph Aldan (Angela B. Aldan [Santiago Tenorio]; Austin B. Aldan; Herman Jr. B. Aldan; Antonia Aliyana B. Aldan; Keliana Joisha B. Aldan; Vicente Cruz Aldan II)

Daughter at heart/Caretaker: Sampekita Saimon

Son at heart: Joseph Fitial

Brothers, Sisters and In-Laws: Kachusa S./ †Lasaro Maipi & Family, Karmen S./Lukas Likiche & Family, James/Maria Pas Saimon & Family, Ana Saimon

Mariano R. Bermudes & Family, Helen B./Wayne Smith & Family, Jose R. Bermudes & Family, Clara W. Saimon & Family, Vicente Tagabuel & Family, Stanlis Milia & Family

Reared Father: Francisco M. Palacios (Tan Ko')

Reared Brothers, Sisters: Frank D. Palacios, Benjamin D. Palacios, Raymond D. Palacios, John Diego D. Palacios, Michael D. Palacios, Darlene P. Sablan, Mayanne P. Reyes, Jacinta D. Palacios, Fatima P. Cabrera, Terry M. Baring, Frances D. Palacios, Bernie D. Palacios, Rita D. Palacios & Pauline D. Palacios.

Daily Mass of Intention is celebrated each evening at 06:00 p.m. at San Vicente Church.

Funeral Services will be held on Saturday, June 08, 2013. Her remains will be escorted at 08:30 a.m. from Nuestra Señora dela Paz Memorial Chapel to San Vicente Church.

Responso Services will be at 09:00 a.m. followed by Holy Rosary at 09:30 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at San Vicente Church at 11:30 a.m. followed by Interment Service at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery where she will be at a peaceful rest.

PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYERS

Patricia Bermudes & Joseph Aldan, Children & Family

Carrie Underwood takes video of year at CMT Awards

NASHVILLE, Tennessee (AP)—Carrie Underwood's awe-some week got off to a roaring start at the CMT Music Awards.

Underwood won top honor video of the year Wednesday night for "Blown Away," capping the evening with an emotional tribute to Oklahoma tornado victims before taking the fan-voted award for the second year in a row. Miranda Lambert and Florida Georgia Line were the night's top winners with two awards apiece.

"The good Lord has been very good to me—well, to all of us in this room—for a very long time," Underwood said after the win.

Underwood—the top winner in CMT Awards history with 10 belt buckles, including four for video of the year—also is celebrating the opening of a Country Music Hall of Fame exhibit and five years with the Grand Ole Opry. She'll also close down the Country Music Association Festival on Sunday night. All this comes less than two weeks after joining the Rolling Stones in Toronto on May 25—the eighth anniversary of her win on "American Idol."

The night belonged to Lambert and FGL before Underwood's flourish at the finish.

The duo of Tyler Hubbard and Brian Kelley won breakthrough video and duo video of the year on their breakthrough hit "Cruise," then performed a remixed version of the song with rapper Nelly to close the show.

"This is a little overwhelming," Kelley said. "We've got the best fans in the world. You guys are freaking amazing."

The breezy, easy-grooving "Cruise" pushed the duo to country stardom last year. Their remix with Nelly moved into the top five on Billboard's Hot 100 pop songs list this week, making it the rare country crossover hit and an early candidate for song of the summer.

Lambert won female video of the year for "Mama's Broken Heart" and CMT performance video of the year for "Over You," recorded during the 2012 "CMT Artist of the Year" broadcast.

"I just got a kiss from Lenny Kravitz," Lambert said as she took the stage for her second trophy. "That was an award in itself."



Carrie Underwood, left, accepts the award for video of the year for "Blown Away" at the 2013 CMT Music Awards at Bridgestone Arena on Wednesday, June 5, 2013, in Nashville, Tenn. Looking on at right is presenter Kenny Rogers.

Much of the early focus of the show was on country's biggest male star, Jason Aldean. Making his first appearance as an awards show co-host, he kicked off the show by play-

ing "American Woman" with Kravitz, got hosting tips from an unlikely cast of characters that included Blake Shelton, Reba McEntire, Kelsey Grammer, Vince Vaughn, Lorraine

Bracco and Luke Bryan.

He also won collaborative video of the year for "The Only Way I Know" with Bryan and Church, who were among the top nominees coming into the

show with Lambert.

Lady Antebellum won group video of the year for "Downtown" and took the stage with mother-to-be Hillary Scott about a month from her due date.

"This is Hillary's maternity present coming early," Charles Kelley said.

Lambert's husband Blake Shelton won male video of the year for "Sure Be Cool If You Did"—an award presented by Lambert. Shelton was traveling due to his duties as a coach on TV's "The Voice," so Lambert accepted, shouting, "Honey, I'm drinking for two tonight."

The CMT Awards are rarely focused on winners of the belt buckle trophy and Wednesday night was no different.

Underwood had the most poignant moment of the night with "See You Again," her tribute to tornado victims in her home state. Swift had the night's most eye-catching performance, singing "Red" with a color guard of flag bearers while playing electric guitar and wearing a red-and-black shorts-and-overcoat ensemble that had a Sgt. Pepper feel to it.

Whedon says Shakespeare informs his superheroes

NEW YORK (AP)—Some might find it strange that Joss Whedon's first movie since "The Avengers"—his 2012 megahit about a team of Marvel Comics superheroes—is an independent adaptation of Shakespeare's "Much Ado About Nothing." But it makes perfect sense to him. The man who created TV hits like "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" and its spinoff "Angel" says his dramas all have a bit of the Bard in them.

"When you're working in Marvel Comics—whether it's

comics or the cinematic universe—you're cribbing from Shakespeare," Whedon said in a recent interview. "The big themes, the big emotions, its kings, and betrayal and love and tragedy and that good stuff, and even in the way I write, any time you get to write about an Asgardian, there's going to be a touch of the Elizabethan in there."

While "Much Ado" debuts in theaters Friday, Whedon's focus



Whedon

is already on "Avengers 2"—due out in 2015—and his upcoming Marvel-based TV series "Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.," which premieres on ABC this fall.

Whedon acknowledges he does feel "pressure" to follow up on the success of "The Avengers"—the third highest-grossing film ever.

The comic book enthusiast says "The Avengers" seems perfectly normal to him—a world

where Thor, Iron Man and Captain America "hang out"—and he was able to readily convey that to a wider audience. "This is how the world meant to be. These guys are going to hang out and save the world and then they're going to get really mad at each other."

Whedon says—like with Shakespeare—the comic book language is "so familiar" to him that he's not scrambling to figure "this superhero thing out. We were only scrambling to make sure other people know what we already know."

Wayne Newton moving out of Las Vegas estate

LAS VEGAS (AP)—With a bitter legal fight nearly over, "Mr. Las Vegas" Wayne Newton is moving from his estate of 45 years, "Casa de Shenandoah," to another mansion nearby.

The downsizing from a 40-plus acres (16-plus hectares) spread to a \$3 million mansion and several adjacent properties is taking place this week, the crooner's sister-in-law, Tricia McCrone, and Newton publicist Kevin Sasaki said Wednesday.

"There's room for all his animals—the peacocks, the horses, and Charlie the penguin," McCrone said of the properties that she said include a main mansion, a guest house and four other homes on a total of about 20 acres.

The main house is a two-story structure on a little more than 2 acres (less than a hectare) with three bedrooms, 6½ bathrooms, a swimming pool, spa and three fireplaces covering more than 9,000 square feet (836 square meters). It used to belong to Norbert Aleman, producer of the racy "Crazy Girls" topless show and the long-running "La Cage" female impersonators review in Las Vegas.

An overall purchase price wasn't disclosed.

The new spread will be called "The Shenandoah," Newton's wife, Kathleen McCrone Newton, told The Associated Press.

The relocation comes with a federal bankruptcy judge in Las Vegas due to sign off June

21 on a series of agreements filed under seal last month to finalize a reorganization involving a partnership that bought Newton's property in June 2010 for \$19.5 million.

Newton had creditors at his door at the time.

Sheriff's deputies had tried in February 2010 to collect a \$500,000 court judgment stemming from back pay owed to a former pilot, and billionaire Bruton Smith, chairman of NASCAR track owner Speedway Motorsports Inc., was seeking to seize Newton's property as repayment of a \$3.35 million loan.

As recently as March, the 71-year-old Newton and his wife maintained that they would remain in their beloved home.

Now the property owner, CSD LLC, will keep the walled "Casa de Shenandoah" compound.

It wasn't immediately clear Wednesday if the entity still has plans to develop it into a "Graceland West" attraction commemorating Newton's career.

However, in a sign that the plan may be scuttled, documents show that 12 commercial tour buses that had been purchased to shuttle visitors several miles from the Las Vegas Strip to the Newton museum have been repossessed.

The bitter fight over the Newton estate was complicated by the interlocking ownership but competing interests of the various parties.

Attorney: Paris Jackson hospitalized but OK

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The 15-year-old daughter of Michael Jackson is physically fine after being taken to a hospital early Wednesday, an attorney for Jackson's mother said.

Perry Sanders Jr. wrote in a statement to The Associated Press that Paris Jackson is getting appropriate medical attention and the family is seeking privacy.

"Being a sensitive 15 year old is difficult no matter who you are," he wrote. "It is especially difficult when you lose the person closest to you. Paris is physically fine and is getting appropriate medical attention. Please respect her privacy and the family's privacy."

Sanders declined further comment on Paris' condition or the circumstances that led to her hospitalization.

Fire and sheriff's officials confirmed they transported someone from a home in Paris' suburban Calabasas neighborhood for a possible overdose but did not release any identifying information or additional details.

Paris frequently posts messages about her life on Twitter, where she has more than a million followers.

One of her most recent posts was from the Beatles' song "Yes-

terday": "yesterday, all my troubles seemed so far away now it looks as though they're here to stay." Another post included the question, "I wonder why tears are salty?"

A 20-minute video of the teen applying makeup was posted to YouTube last week. Paris says on Twitter she doesn't know how the video, in which she repeatedly asserts, "I am so weird," ended up on the site.

"I hope you guys liked it tho and didn't think i'm too crazy," she wrote. "i get weird when i'm not around people lol."

Katherine Jackson shares guardianship of her son's three children—Paris and her brothers Prince, 16, and Blanket, 11—with the singer's nephew, TJ Jackson.

Messages left for TJ Jackson's attorney were not immediately returned.

"We appreciate everyone's thoughts for Paris at this time and their respect for the family's privacy," said a statement from Eric George, an attorney for Debbie Rowe, Paris' biological mother.

Paris' uncles Tito, Marlon and Jackie echoed that sentiment in their statement Wednesday: "Thank you for the outpouring of concern and support for Paris—she is safe and doing fine. We truly appreciate you respecting our family's privacy at this time."

Michael Jackson kept his children out of the spotlight during his lifetime. After his death from an overdose of the anesthetic propofol in June 2009, the children took on a more public life, beginning with their father's memorial service, which included Pars' tearful goodbye to her father.



Jackson

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Now dads, Vaughn and Wilson bond with kids on set

MOUNTAIN VIEW, California (AP)—Vince Vaughn and Owen Wilson have gone from womanizing “Wedding Crashers” to doting dads who bring their kids to work.

The two actors reunite on screen for the first time since 2005 in “The Internship,” opening Friday. The two star as recently fired salesmen who seek to reinvent themselves by winning internships at Google, bringing the same kooky chemistry that made “Wedding Crashers” a surprise smash.

That chemistry was on display during a recent visit to Google’s

Northern California headquarters. Past the beach-volleyball court and rows of red-and-green bikes, in a conference room with a coffee table shaped like California, Vaughn, 43, and Wilson, 44, can’t help but crack each other up.

Asked if their off-screen friendship fuels their comedy on screen, Wilson joked that Vaughn tried to avoid him on set.

“A lot of times I’d go up to talk to Vince and I’d want to kind of catch up and shoot the breeze, and maybe crack some jokes, and he was always just buried in his computer,” Wilson said. “And then

one time I noticed that it wasn’t turned on, it was just when I was coming up. So I didn’t know what to make of that.”

“It’s called I’m looking for some downtime, I don’t need to hear the same story again, you know what I mean?” Vaughn replied without missing a beat. “That’s the thing with Owen that I love is his stories will start always in different ways, but the endings are consistent, which is: That’s why I win. So no matter where the stories start, I never get nervous because the last page is always: That’s why I win.”

Both men felt like winners

when their toddler children visited the set during filming last year.

“It did kind of give you a good feeling just seeing the kids running around,” Wilson recalled.

Wilson’s son and Vaughn’s daughter are close in age, and Vaughn has another baby on the way. But the actors disagree on the best parenting approach.

“Owen is like it’s important to tell the kid they’re great and give them confidence,” Vaughn said, “where I feel like you throw them in the pool and it’s going to go one way or the other.”



Vaughn



Wilson

Judge enters Kardashian-Humphries divorce judgment

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A Los Angeles judge has finalized Kim Kardashian’s divorce from National Basketball Association player Kris Humphries.

Court records show the couple’s divorce judgment was formally entered by Superior Court Judge Hank Goldberg on Monday.

The filing does not reveal any new details about the couple’s split. They reached a settlement in their long-running divorce case in April and signed the judgment in late May.

Humphries had been seeking an annulment of the couple’s marriage but agreed to a divorce before a trial on the matter. He claimed the couple’s lavish, televised wedding was based on fraud, but he never detailed his allegations in court.

Kardashian, a reality show star, filed for divorce in 2011 after the couple had been married 72 days.

Humphries plays for the Brooklyn Nets.

Actor Stephen Fry reveals suicide attempt in 2012

LONDON (AP)—British actor and writer Stephen Fry says he attempted suicide last year while filming abroad.

In an interview recorded with comic Richard Herring, Fry said he took “a huge number of pills” with vodka and was found unconscious by his producer in his hotel room.

In the podcast interview, parts of which were available on the BBC website Wednesday, Fry said the suicide attempt made his body convulse so much that he broke four ribs. He did not give more details, but tweeted Wednesday he is “now fine.”

Fry, who suffers from bipolar disorder, said in the interview that as president of a mental health charity he wants to be open about his problems.

In a BBC documentary, he recounted attempting suicide in 1995 after quitting a West End play.

Chimp’s pics snapped up for \$76,000 at auction

LONDON (AP)—They’re askew and out of focus, but a set of photos taken by a talented Russian chimpanzee sold at auction Wednesday for 50,000 pounds (\$76,680).

The blurry images of Moscow’s Red Square by simian snapper Mikki were part of a sale of Russian photography at Sotheby’s in London.

They were snapped up by a Russian buyer.

Mikki, a performer with the Moscow Circus, was trained to take pictures in the 1990s by Russian conceptual artists Vitaly Komar and Alexander Melamid as part of a project to challenge concepts of artistic value.

The sale also included images of Mikki taken by the duo.

Jo Vickery of Sotheby’s contemporary art department said, “You know when people say with contemporary art, ‘I could do that,’ this really talks to that.”

The buyer, Russian art collector Kira Flanzaich, said the photos were a fine example of conceptual art.

“Sometimes you think that animals can maybe photograph or do other things bet-



In this image made available Wednesday June 5, 2013 by the auction house Sotheby’s shows the chimpanzee Mikki in Red Square Moscow in this undated image.

ter than a human being,” she said. “So we could see it in this particular piece, because Mikki took the photographs that are

quite good of Red Square.”

Unfortunately Mikki was not around to enjoy the praise. The chimp died in 2007.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Czech court clears US musician for fan’s death

PRAGUE (AP)—An appeals court has upheld the acquittal of the frontman of a U.S. heavy metal band accused of causing a teenage fan’s death at a concert in the Czech Republic. Lamb of God’s Randy Blythe was charged in December in Prague with causing bodily harm to another person with lethal consequences. Blythe was accused of pushing a 19-year-old who had climbed onto the stage during a 2010 concert by the Richmond, Virginia-based band at Prague’s Abaton club. The man’s head hit the floor and he later died of a head injury. Prague’s Municipal

court ruled March 5 that Blythe was not guilty but the state prosecutor appealed. Spokesman Jan Fort says Prague’s High Court upheld that verdict on Wednesday. Its decision is final.

Keith Olbermann to host baseball studio show

NEW YORK (AP)—Keith Olbermann is getting back into broadcasting to host TBS’s post-season baseball studio show, staying away from politics for the moment. Turner Sports said Wednesday that Olbermann will team with Hall of Fame pitcher Dennis Eckersley on its studio show during the baseball playoffs this October. It’s a familiar role

and corporate home for Olbermann, who hosted baseball post-season shows on NBC and Fox in the late 1990s and began his on-air career as a sports reporter for CNN, another Turner network. Olbermann’s last two politically oriented jobs ended poorly. He quit abruptly in January 2011 after eight years as a prime-time host at MSNBC, and his later tenure at Current TV lasted a year before Olbermann was removed from the air and responded with a lawsuit, settled out of court. He’s generally acknowledged to be a smart and witty broadcaster, while off-screen battles with executives have kept him jumping to different jobs.

Couple’s great relationship is second victim of woman’s rape

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I have been dating “Vernon” for six months. We were great together from the day we met. It was like we’d known each other forever and could talk for hours. We talked every night and it was amazing.

Two weeks ago, I was raped by a man I thought was a friend. When I told Vernon, he was shocked and didn’t know how to handle it. I was hoping we could get past it, but two nights ago he said he can no longer be intimate with me because he feels like he is doing something wrong, or I won’t like it. He said he loves talking to me and still wants to be friends.

We have continued talking every night, but it is hard for me to do as just his friend. Do you think he will be able to get over these feelings and be with me again? Should I remain friends when I have feelings for him?

WANTS MORE IN MINNESOTA



Dear Abby

DEAR WANTS MORE: If you haven’t already reported the rape to the police, do it now. The man who did this to you needs to be taken out of circulation so he won’t harm another woman.

You should be receiving counseling to help you get over what was done to you, and frankly, so should Vernon. Unless he can stop treating you as though you are “untouchable,” you should NOT continue the “friendship,” because what he is doing is distancing himself when you need his support the most.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: About a year ago I became engaged to a very special man. We have decided to be married during a weeklong cruise we have taken the past two years. We knew some family members might not be able to attend for financial reasons, so we chose to invite only two close friends as witnesses and not have our families there.

My family is OK with our decision, but his family is not pleased. They have been calling him constantly and telling him to change our plans and accommodate them, and frankly, we are sick of it. We know why they’re upset, but at the same time this is our day and they should respect our decision.

How can we get them to be more understanding and less disrespectful about how we want our wedding? Please help, because we don’t know what else to say to them.

SOON TO BE NEWLYWEDS

DEAR SOON TO BE NEWLYWEDS: It appears your fiancé’s family considers weddings to be more about the joining of families and less about the wishes of the individuals involved. They expected to be included, and are hurt because they weren’t.

A way to explain your decision would be to make it less about yourselves and more about the fact that you knew some family members could not afford to make this trip, so you plan to have a reception when you return and include everybody.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Next month my husband and I are leaving our 18-year-old son home alone overnight for the first time. We have good neighbors who will keep an eye on things. Although we trust our son, I feel we should let his 16-year-old girlfriend’s parents know he will have the house to himself for the night.

I have never met them and don’t want to alarm them by calling out of the blue. Do you think I should call them?

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

DEAR WHAT: Yes. Call, introduce yourself, and suggest that because your teenagers are involved that you meet in person “sometime soon.” And while you’re making conversation, casually mention that you will be leaving town and your son will be alone overnight for the first time. If you had a 16-year-old daughter, wouldn’t YOU want to know?

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

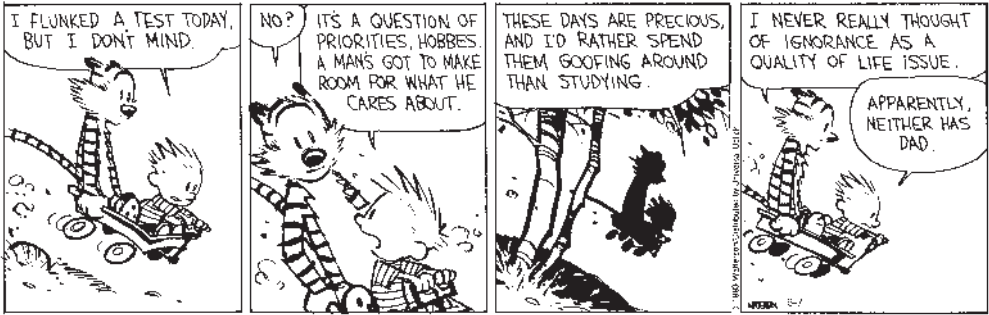
Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in “The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It.” To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

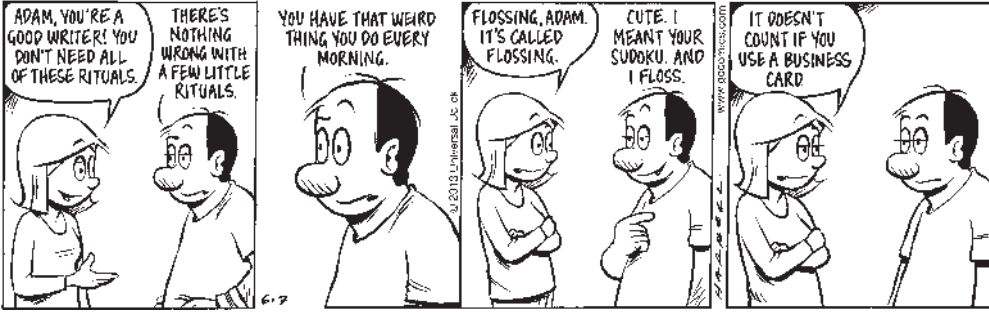
Garfield® By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Homer's cry
4 Commotion
7 Couturier Bill
12 — out a living
13 America's uncle
14 They're usually covered in white
15 Auto
16 Cartoon canary
18 Suitable
19 Point of view
20 Effervescence
22 Squirrel's home
23 Mediocre
27 Samovar
29 Sister of Venus
31 Kin of "Abracadabra!"
34 Crucifixes
37 "Brady Bunch" girl
38 Cash-drawer compartment

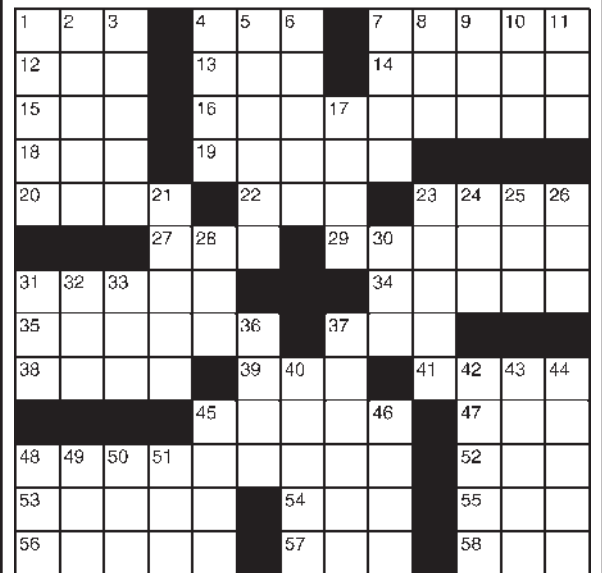
DOWN

1 Starbucks selection
2 Giraffe's cousin
3 Avis competitor
4 "The Thin Man"
5 Suddenly occur to
6 Last letter
7 Information unit
8 Myrna of Hollywood
9 Matter-horn, e.g.
10 Tackle moguls
11 Away from NNW
17 Reindeer kin
21 Boer fighters
23 Cheerful part of NYC?
24 Zodiac feline
25 Moreover
26 Owns
28 Tatter
30 Detergent brand
31 Dog's doc
32 Individual
33 Tiny particle
36 Towel word
37 Andrew Lloyd Webber title role
40 Microsoft bigwig
42 Where to see "The Last Supper"
43 Poets' Muse
44 More recent
45 Hackman or Wilder
46 Beseech
48 Masseur's workplace
49 Sweet potato
50 Mainlander's memento
51 U-Haul rental

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterday's answer 6-7

HEM ABEL VAST
IRAMISO INTO
MACKINAW ETAS
KEG ULSTERS
PHENOM YON
AIR SOY TAMP
IDES EAT MARC
RELIC PAD CON
TODDLER CUR
OLIO MACARONI
BLOW EGAD OAK
YARN NAPE NYE



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99c per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Michael Cera, 25; Bill Hader, 35; Prince, 55; Liam Neeson, 61.

Happy Birthday: Listen, observe and formulate your strategy. Unusual circumstances will surround you, making it crucial for you to look at every angle before making a move. Deception and disillusionment can be expected and must be dealt with smartly. Do your research and question whatever appears to be the least bit suspicious. Let your intuition guide you. Your numbers are 3, 10, 13, 22, 34, 43, 49.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Refrain from making spur-of-the moment decisions. Being anxious will not bode well when it comes to your relationships with those affected by your choices. Put greater emphasis on learning, asking questions and getting the low-down before making a move. ****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Practical actions and a reasonable request will position you well for future considerations in your community and at work. You can put pressure on someone who owes you without ruining your relationship. Stabilize a partnership with honest communication. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Letting others know what you are doing will leave you in a vulnerable position. Aggressive behavior will be met with opposition and criticism. An unusual turn of events can be in your favor if you have been honest about your abilities. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Avoid being pushed in a direction you don't want

to head. Prepare to offer solutions that will work in everyone's favor. A trip to an unusual destination will open your mind to a host of new possibilities. Love is on the rise. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Jump in and offer your help. Your generosity will be impressive if you are humble as well. A change in your location or hanging out with different people will give you an opportunity to test your skills and knowledge and raise your profile. ****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You will need to rely on past experience to help you avoid negativity and criticism at work. Protect your reputation and do your best to offer knowledge and alternatives to whatever you face and whoever opposes you. Pampering will ease your stress. **

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Take action. You have more control than you realize. Push for what you want, and travel and communicate if it will add to your success. Don't let anyone stand in your way or slow you down. Put your needs first. *****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Boost your confidence by engaging in conversations with other creative individuals. Your intuition will not let you down. Follow your heart and you will impress the people you encounter. Love and romance are accentuated. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Put greater focus on partnerships. Don't leave anything to chance. Say what's on your mind and let your situation unfold based on trust and truth. A change of plans will lead to an adventure you won't want to miss. ***

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Listen before you react. You stand to gain from the information you gather. With a little of your input and ingenuity you can form a partnership that allows everyone involved to win. Leave room for romance at the end of the day. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Personal improvements will bring compliments and new possibilities. The more active you are and the more you embrace a challenge, the more power and control you will have. Expansion should be your goal. You have more to offer than you realize. *****

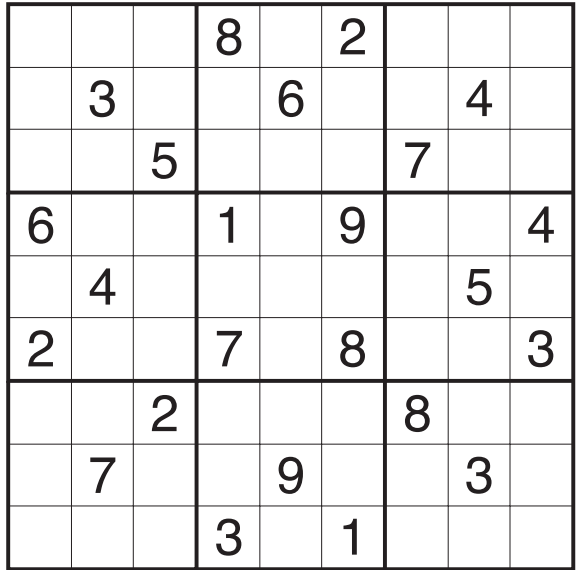
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Refuse to let anyone push you into an argument. Put your time and effort into your home and the people you love the most. A unique approach to a family matter will improve your current living situation. Romance is highlighted. **

Birthday Baby: You are curious and determined. Your memory serves you well.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](https://twitter.com/eugenialast).

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

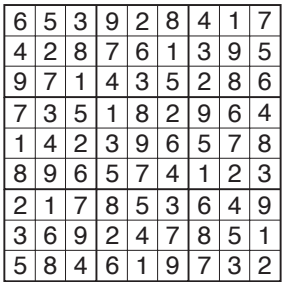


Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 6/07

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★★★ 6/06

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

JEANNE COOPER (1928-2013)

Solution: 10 letters



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Allison, Angel, Belle, Bernsen, Bold, Book, Brock, Caren, Chancellor, Clay, Cleo, Collin, Corbin, Cotrooke, Crossroads, Dame, Emmy, Face, Harry, Household, Icon, Intruder, Ironside, Jess, Jill, Katharine, Kay, Kem, Kind, Known, Lead, Marge, Mason, Mother, Myra, Nanny, Nikki, Perry, Quick, Redhead, Restless, Soap Opera, Starr, Taft, Touched, Wilma, Wyoming, Young
Yesterday's Answer: Backward
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Nadal, Djokovic to meet in French Open semifinals



PARIS (AP)—The French Open showdown between Rafael Nadal

and Novak Djokovic might lack some sizzle because it's a semifinal and not the final.

Still, they both have more than enough motivation to make the match a memorable one.

Seven-time champion Nadal vs. No. 1-ranked Djokovic carries the heft of a final, even if both players need two more victories to claim the championship. Nadal bids to become the first man to win eight titles at the same Grand Slam event, while Djokovic seeks the only major title he has yet to win for a career Grand Slam.

One of them will go away disappointed Friday, when they meet for the 35th time. Both are mindful of the match as only the means to an end.

"If you win, you didn't win anything yet," Nadal said. "It's not the final; it's the semifinals. You are not playing a match for a title. You are just playing a match to be in the final. So it's a big difference."

For partisan Parisians, Nadal-Djokovic might not even qualify as the main attraction. Popular Jo-Wilfried Tsonga is trying to become the first Frenchman in 30 years to win the Roland Garros title, and he'll play Spaniard David Ferrer in the other semifinal.

All four semifinalists advanced in straight sets, the first time that's happened at the French Open since 1948. Nadal swept Stanislas Wawrinka 6-2, 6-3, 6-1, and less than 10 minutes later, Djokovic closed out his victory over 35-year-old Tommy Haas, 6-3, 7-6 (5), 7-5.



Spain's Rafael Nadal serves to Switzerland's Stanislas Wawrinka during their quarterfinal match of the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium Wednesday, June 5, 2013 in Paris.

Defending champion Maria Sharapova was scheduled to face two-time Australian Open champ Victoria Azarenka in the women's semifinals Thursday, followed by No. 1 Serena Williams against 2012 runner-up Sara Errani.

Sharapova needed a comeback unlike any other in her career to reach the final four, rallying past Jelena Jankovic, 0-6, 6-4, 6-3. It was Sharapova's first win after losing an opening set 6-0.

Azarenka reached her first Roland Garros semifinal by beating Maria Kirilenko 7-6 (3), 6-2.

Nadal's ranking slipped during a seven-month layoff because of a knee injury, and as a result, he and Djokovic wound up in the same half of the draw. That's why they'll meet before the final at a major event for the first time since 2008.

Nadal leads Djokovic 19-15 but lost their most recent meeting in the Monte Carlo fi-

nal on clay in April. Nadal has a 6-3 advantage in Grand Slam meetings, including 4-0 at the French Open, and he won when they met in last year's final at Roland Garros.

He wasn't looking for a rematch.

"I would prefer an easier opponent," Nadal said. "But it's Novak, and I have to accept that it's going to be a very tough match."

Only moments after beating Haas, Djokovic was thinking—

and talking—about Nadal.

"I'm ready to play five sets," he told the crowd.

Facing the king of clay, Djokovic finds himself in the rare role of underdog, while Nadal bristled at the suggestion he's the favorite.

"I don't care at all," he said through a translator. "Frankly, what words could I find to tell you? I mean, what else can I say? I don't give a damn about it."

"I try and play my best tennis,

and the least of my concerns is to know if I'm favored or not. These are words that will be carried away by the wind."

Nadal's 57-1 at Roland Garros, but he hardly looked like the man to beat early in the tournament. He fell behind in each of his first three matches, and groused that he might soon be back in his native Mallorca fishing.

But he has won 12 consecutive sets, and dropped serve only once in his two most recent wins. After steamrolling Wawrinka, Nadal said he's much more optimistic about his chances than a week ago.

"I really am playing better here," he said. "I'm happy with the way that I played today especially. It was my best match on the tournament without any doubt. I said I needed to make a change. I was confident that I can do it, and I did."

Djokovic has cause for confidence, too. The six-time Grand Slam champion has reached the semifinals at 12 consecutive major tournaments, and he's 33-4 this year.

Plus he has beaten Nadal more than any other player.

"I have a good game for him because my style is to be aggressive, but I can also defend well and have that transition game," Djokovic said. "I'm going to be confident and step into the court with self-belief that I can win."

Djokovic earned his latest victory by wearing down Haas, the oldest French Open men's quarterfinalist since 1971. Djokovic kissed the line with a backhand winner on match point, and after the handshake ritual at the net, let out a scream and threw a roundhouse punch, ready for Rafa.

MIAMI (AP)—Before reaching the top of basketball, LeBron James was run over by the San Antonio Spurs.

The Spurs swept James' Cleveland Cavaliers in the 2007 NBA Finals, so long ago that the winning game plan focused on exploiting James' weaknesses. Those are nearly impossible to find now, and James essentially warned the Spurs that they shouldn't bother looking.

The Spurs already know.

"He'll be a lot more of a problem than he was in '07, that's for sure," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said Wednesday.

Tim Duncan told the beaten James minutes after that series that the league would someday belong to him, and he was right. The NBA's MVP guided Miami to last year's championship and the league's best record this season.

Now the Spurs will try to take it back.

But James is now the best player in the game, is surrounded by more talent in Miami than he ever had in Cleveland, and still carries the memory of the beating the Spurs laid on

Back in NBA Finals, James can get back at Spurs

him six years ago.

"I have something in me that they took in '07. Beat us on our home floor, celebrated on our home floor. I won't forget that. You shouldn't as a competitor. You should never forget that," James said.

He joined the Heat in 2010, experienced more finals failure a year later, then was finals MVP last year when Miami beat Oklahoma City in five games. Another title now would put him halfway to the four that Duncan and Popovich have won together.

"That's what I'm here for," James said. "I'm here to win championships, and you're not always going to be on the successful side. I've seen it twice, not being on the successful side."

He was just 22 at the end of his fourth year in the league when he carried to the Cavs to their first finals appearance. But there were holes in his game, from an unreliable jump shot to an undeveloped post game, and

the Spurs took advantage of every one of them.

James shot 36 percent in the series, including a ghastly 10 for 30 in Game 4, and committed 23 turnovers.

"Well, LeBron is a different player than he was in '07," Popovich said. "That was like ancient history. He was basically a neophyte at the time, wondering how all this stuff worked and how it's put together. We were very fortunate at that time to get him so early. But at this point he's grown."

James wasn't interested in discussing much of that series, but he recalled the way the Spurs' strategy kept him from getting into the paint and dared him to shoot jumpers.

There's no blueprint now that would encourage a guy who made 56.5 percent of his shots this season to shoot the ball.

"If you go under my pick-and-roll now, I'm going to shoot. And I'm confident I'm going to make every last one

of them," James said. "I'm just more confident in my ability to shoot the ball."

"But at the same time, I also have a lot more weapons this time around going against this team, where in '07 they loaded three guys to me a lot on the strong side of the floor. So like I said, I'm a better player, and you can't dare me to do anything I don't want to do in 2013."

Duncan and James probably wouldn't have thought it would take so long to see each other in the finals again after their meeting in the hallway of Cleveland's Quicken Loans Arena. San Antonio had built a quiet dynasty, winning four titles in nine years, and the core of Duncan, Tony Parker and Manu Ginobili would keep giving the Spurs chances.

But they couldn't get out of the West even while finishing with the best record in the conference the last two years, just as Cleveland couldn't in the East during James' last

two seasons there.

"I hoped to be back here. Whether he would be here or not, I couldn't predict that," the 37-year-old Duncan said. "Knowing the player that he was then and the trajectory he was on, I had no doubt he would be back here. I had no doubt he would be tops in this league at some point. And I'm glad and honored to be back here playing against him."

The Spurs have been off since finishing a sweep of Memphis on May 27. The Heat were forced to overcome a rugged Indiana team and the struggles of Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh in a seven-game series that wrapped up Monday.

That set up a finals between teams built in decidedly different ways but with mutual respect. While others around the league seethed, Popovich even called Pat Riley to offer congratulations after the Heat architect signed James and Bosh in 2010.

It gives James a chance to pay the Spurs back for their

2007 romp, when they forced the Cavaliers into the worst offensive performance in finals history.

"I believe that after that finals he probably always obviously wanted to get back again. But I think he probably always wanted to get back and play them," Wade said. "So obviously having this opportunity right now is probably something he always dreamed of, of getting back to the finals and playing the Spurs again."

The Spurs' Big Three didn't have to endure the same wait to win. Duncan won a title in just his second season, and Parker was only 21 when he earned his first. Yet eventually they stalled, so they're as eager for this opportunity as James.

"When I was 21 and I won my first one, it was kind of fast and we think it's going to happen every year. We think it's easy. But after a lot of years in the league, you realize it's really hard to go to the finals," Parker said. "Now we take nothing for granted. We appreciate every moment, and we'll see what happens."

Chicago snaps skid, beat Seattle 7-5 in 16



SEATTLE
(AP) —

After each team scored five runs in the 14th inning to break open a scoreless tie, Alejandro De Aza and Alex Rios hit RBI singles in the 16th and the Chicago White Sox stopped an eight-game losing streak by beating Seattle 7-5 Wednesday.

According to the Mariners, with information from Elias Sports Bureau, it was the first game in major league history when each team scored five or more runs in the game when it was 0-0 through the ninth.

Addison Reed (2-0) got the win despite allowing Kyle Seager's tying grand slam with two outs in the 14th. Seager became the first player to hit a tying slam in extra innings.

Hector Noesi (0-1) took the loss.

Astros 11, Orioles 7

In Houston, the Houston Astros hit six home runs and won for the seventh time in eight games, beating Baltimore.

Jason Castro, Carlos Pena and J.D. Martinez each had two-run homers, and Jose Altuve, Matt Dominguez and Marwin Gonzalez added solo shots as the Astros came one home run shy of a single-game franchise record for home runs.

Royals 4, Twins 1

In Kansas City, Mo., Jeremy Guthrie

lasted six shaky innings and the Kansas City bullpen held off Minnesota Twins the rest of the way, wrapping up a victory that ended the Royals' franchise-record 11-game home losing streak.

The Twins jumped out to a first-inning lead off Guthrie (6-3), but the right-hander escaped a bases-loaded jam with the help of a nice catch by first baseman Eric Hosmer to prevent any additional damage.

Cubs 8, Angels 6

In Anaheim, Calif., Anthony Rizzo hit a three-run double in the 10th inning and the Chicago Cubs overcame a pair of homers by Mark Trumbo to beat the Los Angeles Angels.

Cody Ransom added a three-run homer for the Cubs.

Rookie Robert Coello (3-2) walked Dioner Navarro with one out in the Cubs' 10th and Darwin Barney singled with two outs. Luis Valbuena walked before Rizzo doubled into the right-field corner, increasing his team-high RBIs total to 39.

Yankees 6, Indians 4

In New York, CC Sabathia retired the first 14 batters and pitched his first complete game of the season, leading the New York Yankees over Cleveland for a three-game sweep.

Travis Hafner and Brett Gardner homered for the Yankees.

Sabathia (6-4) gave up seven hits and struck out nine.

Rangers 3, Red Sox 2

In Boston, Elvis Andrus hit a tiebreaking, two-run double in the seventh inning after earlier ending a 1-for-18 slump and the Texas Rangers beat Boston.

Neal Cotts (1-0) got the win despite walking three of the four batters he faced. Joe Nathan pitched the ninth for his 18th save in 19 chances.

Rays 3, Tigers 0

In Detroit, Matt Joyce hit a sacrifice fly to break a scoreless tie in the ninth inning, lifting the Tampa Bay Rays over Detroit.

Evan Longoria added an RBI single later in the ninth off Doug Fister (5-3), who pitched well again for the Tigers but got no offensive support.

Rockies 12, Reds 4

In Cincinnati, Carlos Gonzalez tied his career high with three of Colorado's six homers, and Troy Tulowitzki went 5 for 5 with a pair of homers, powering the Rockies to a victory over the Cincinnati Reds.

The Rockies hadn't hit six homers in a game since they had that many against the Marlins on July 4, 2008, according to STATS LLC.

Diamondbacks 10, Cardinals 3

In St. Louis, Paul Goldschmidt hit his second grand slam in five days for Arizona, and Wade Miley bounced back from his two

worst outings of the season.

Arizona has won four of five. St. Louis, with the best record in the majors, dropped back-to-back games for the first time since April 28-29.

Goldschmidt became the first Arizona player with two slams on the same road trip. He hit one in a 12-4 win at the Chicago Cubs on Saturday.

Braves 5, Pirates 0

In Atlanta, Julio Teheran carried a no-hitter into the eighth inning, leading Atlanta to the win.

Pinch hitter Brandon Inge singled to left with two outs in the eighth for Pittsburgh's only hit of the game. Teheran then received an ovation from Braves fans, who also cheered after the inning ended on Starling Marte's popout.

Padres 6, Dodgers 2

In Los Angeles, Jason Marquis took a no-hitter into the sixth inning and the Padres rebounded after dropping the first two games of the series.

Marquis (7-2) had his no-hitter broken up when Skip Schumaker doubled to deep center field with two outs in the sixth. Adrian Gonzalez followed with a RBI single that trimmed San Diego's lead to 3-1.

Phillies 6, Marlins 1

In Philadelphia, Cole Hamels had a season-high 11 strikeouts in seven dominant innings,

Domonic Brown hit another homer and the Phillies completed a three-game series sweep.

Hamels (2-9) allowed one run and four hits to snap a personal six-game losing streak.

Jimmy Rollins hit a go-ahead RBI single with two outs in the seventh off A.J. Ramos (0-2). Ryan Howard followed with a two-run triple, diving headfirst into third.

Mets 10, Nationals 1

In Washington, Marlon Byrd maintained his mastery of Dan Haren with a pair of home runs, and the Mets snapped a four-game losing streak.

The win put the Mets above .400 and the Nationals below .500—a succinct reflection of the mixed fortunes of both clubs—and also dropped preseason favorite Washington to third place behind Philadelphia in the NL East. The Nationals trail division-leading Atlanta by eight games.

Athletics 6, Brewers 1

In Milwaukee, Bartolo Colon won his fourth straight start and Brandon Moss hit a three-run homer to power the Athletics to the victory.

Oakland has won 16 of its last 19 games. Colon (7-2) gave up a run and eight hits in seven innings.

Colon is among more than a dozen players whose names have been tied to a now-closed Miami anti-aging clinic under

investigation by Major League Baseball. The right-hander missed the end of last season when he was suspended 50 games after testing positive for synthetic testosterone.

Milwaukee left fielder Ryan Braun, who has also been linked to the clinic, did not play because of a lingering thumb problem.

Yovani Gallardo (4-6) allowed five runs and six hits in six-plus innings to lose for the fifth time in his last six starts.

Blue Jays 4, Giants 0

In San Francisco, R.A. Dickey allowed two hits in 8 1-3 innings and sparked a four-run fifth inning with an RBI double, helping Toronto to a split of the two-game series.

Mark DeRosa added a two-run single and Adam Lind had three hits for his eighth multihit performance in the past 12 games.

Barry Zito (4-4) was done in by the one big inning and lost at home for the first time since last August. The defending World Series champion Giants have lost 11 of 18 games heading into a nine-game road trip.

Dickey (5-7) bounced back from a pair of rough starts in which he allowed six runs each to Baltimore and Atlanta. He shut down the Giants thanks to his dancing knuckleball that helped him record five strikeouts.

Zito allowed four runs, seven hits and three walks in six innings to lose at home for the first time since Aug. 2, 2012, against the Mets.

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SAIPAN 234-RENT



Oceanside Underdawgs tops Chichirika C division



Oceanside Underdawgs bested five other teams to rule the Chichirika C division of the 2013 Bud Light/Saipan Electronic Darts Association League.

Oceanside Underdawgs finished the regular season with a 155-70 record for a 68.89 win percentage and beat Sand Juvy Lupeyt (135-90), Oceanside Shottas (127-98), SOS Dart Knights (92-133), Sands Bar Whoosh Whoosh (70-155), and Joe's Last Chance (40-185). The champion team is composed of Jake Licop, John March Ong, Mark Mendoza, Modie Zamora, Rommel Ronquillo, and Michael Baldonadi.

Licop and Ong had the weighted average for Oceanside Underdawgs with their iden-



Members of Oceanside Underdawgs pose for a team photo after winning the Chichirika C division of the 2013 Bud Light/Saipan Electronic Darts Association League.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SPORTS BRIEFS

Emon Lodge, PABA meeting today

Organizers of the Emon Lodge No. 179 Brotherhood Basketball League 2013/Docomo Pacific Cup are requesting representatives of participating teams to attend a meeting tonight at 7pm at KFC.

Team representatives are also requested to turn in their rosters and \$400 entrance fee.

After the Emon Lodge meeting, organizers will also discuss details for the Philippine Amateur Basketball Association-sanctioned 3-on-3 tournament.

The 3-on-3 competition is set for June 16 at the Civic Center Basketball Court and is open for U15 players (must not turn 16 on game day). Each team is allowed to have a maximum of five

players. Entrance fee is only \$50 per squad.

Format and game schedule will depend on the number of entries, but PABA official said they will work on giving participating teams at least three matches each.

For more information, contact Bong Malasarte at 287-5525. **(PR)**

Pali Ryan 100K Challenge

Bikers are invited to join the Pali Ryan 100K Challenge that will hit the road this Saturday.

Start time is set for 5:30am at the American Memorial Park. The race is open to individual bikers and team.

For more information, contact Teresa Kim-Tenorio at tkimtenorio@gmail.com or Lyn Tenorio at lynnft@gmail.com. **(PR)**

tical 40.73 clip, while Sandy Juvy Lupeyt's Jerald Rivera led the race with his 48.26.

Meanwhile, other division winners were Joe's Steak Gangnam, and Jokers Destroyers.

Joe's Steak Gangnam prevailed in the Kingfisher C division with its 152-73 slates. Joe's Steak Gangnam finished way ahead of runner-up Joe's

Bar Oh!MG, which held a 128-97 card. Playing for the Kingfisher C division champion are Raymond David, Jake Ilago, Samart Buathong, Dionela Tabelon, and Bonsung Srisomkhieo.

Oceanside M-Side Shooters came in at third with its 107-118 record, followed by Sand Juvy Dart-A-Holic (108-122), Oceanside Sparkz (97-128), and Sand Juvy Lucky Shot (85-137).

David finished second in the weighted average race after carding 41.56, while Oceanside Sparkz's Jun Camacho topped the field with his 43.82.

In the Masters division, the Destroyers had an impressive 175-80 record to beat Jokers Fantastic Baby (152-103), Sand Juvy Kamote's (146-109), Sand Juvy Maharot Daddy's (131-124), Bammy's Team Poksu (109-146), and SOS Mixblood Shooters III (41-214).

The champion team is composed of Pam Ybanez, Bernard Paras, Sadiri Martin, Gerry Galzote, and Rolly Morales.

In the weighted average category, Sand Juvy's Kamote's Jun Olita reigned supreme with his 67.06. **(RBM)**

PHARMIN

From Page 32

failed to make the grade in the semifinals after logging 12.35 seconds, four notches short of getting into the finals.

Pharmin's teammate—Jesus Iguel—also raced in the 100m run and had a faster qualifying time of 11.68 seconds. However, he placed third on Heat 2 and only the Top 2 runners in each heat marched into the semifinals. Iguel was behind Fiji's Banuve Tabakaucoro, who set the best qualifying time at 10.69 seconds and American Samoa's Charles Urhle (11.58 seconds). Tabakaucoro went on to win the gold medal in the 100m run with his 10.65 seconds.

In the women's division, Rachel Abrams clocked in at 13.35 seconds to finish 11th overall

and fifth in her heat. The 100m races were the last events for the CNMI bets, who will return to Saipan with one bronze medal, courtesy of Gabrielle Race.

Race placed third in the 3,000m run during the opening of the three-day tournament last Monday after clocking in at 12:33.12 and surpassing her qualifying time of 12:55.30. She also competed in the 1,500m run last Tuesday and although she missed the medal podium, the Marianas High School student still set a new personal best time after recording 5:35:21, more than 16 second ahead of the 5:51.64 she posted during the All Schools meet on Saipan last month.

Race then teamed up with Pharmin, Abrams, and Beo Ngirchongor in the 800m mixed medley relay race last Tuesday night and the CNMI quartet clocked in at 1:50.89.

SAIPAN

From Page 32

Saipan Major All-Stars shut out Tinian, 9-0, in the finals to earn the right to represent the CNMI to the 2012 Asia-Pacific Regional Championship in Taipei. Last year's selected squad also defeated Tinian in the preliminary game, 20-3, and walloped Rota, 24-0.

Antonio Camacho will still manage this year's Major All-Stars and will be joined on the bench by coaches David Ada Jr. and Cadiz Tenorio.

Manager Bernard Cabrera will also call the shots for the Saipan Junior All-Stars for the second straight year and his

crew will have only one hold-over (Nathan Camacho) from last year's team that routed Rota in the finals, 15-1. Joining Camacho on the elite squad are Cedric Camacho, Allen Cepeda, Thomas Dela Cruz, Matthew Hamilton, Benen Iguel, Kier Agda, Francisco Lifofoi, Christian Lizama, Benjamin Maratita, Aurel Mendiola, Juan Quitugua Jr., Roke Tenorio, and Jose Tyquingco. Lawrence Camacho and David Cepeda are the coaches.

The Saipan Senior All-Stars will have three returnees from last year's team that outclassed Rota in the finals, 12-7. Suiing up for the select team anew are Cedric Ada, Khobby Kaipat, Francisco Lieto and they will

be joined by Jerald and Jonathan Cabrera, A.J. Evangelista, Austin Hocog, Darion Jones, Kevin Deleon Guerrero, Joseph Lifofoi Jr., Jose Lizama, Michael Muna, Jhace Palacios, Ian Rogolifoi, and Virolanson Secharmida.

CNMI Hall of Famer Tony Rogolifoi will manage the Senior All-Stars, while Syl Ada and Jesse Yamagishi are named coaches.

Saipan Baseball League Rookie of the Year and regular season MVP and Padres' third baseman Jordan Pangelinan leads the 16-player Big League All-Stars. Completing the roster are Jeremy Atalig, Quinson Blas, Jared Sablan, Ricardo Dela Cruz, Anthony and Jonah

Flores, Ruselle Hocog, Lamarc Iguel, Greg Iskawa, Peter Li-eto, Poland Masaharu Jr., David Matagolai, Leroy Regis, Patrick Tenorio Jr., and Robert Tudela.

Joseph is back as the Big League All-Stars manager, while Patrick Tenorio and Juan Manibusan are coaching the selection, which will aim to duplicate the 15-5 finals win last year's team recorded against Rota.

Winners of the four divisions will advance to the ASPAC, which will be held in Clark, Pampanga, in the Philippines from June 29 to July 9.

Meanwhile, the Big League All-Stars raffle drawing set for June 8 has been moved to June 22 at 6pm at the Minatchom At-dao Pavilion.

SWEEP

From Page 32

C class, Almond Edrelin topped Panapa Peteru, 21-13, 21-10.

In the women's division, all two class C matches ended after two games with Dianne Francisco beating Lani Santos, 21-17, 21-12, and Havika Farro outclassing Mykki Caracut, 21-19, 21-20. In class B, Toshiko Obata whipped Cristy Villaflo, 21-7, 21-7, while the favored Hannah Choi crushed Malou Malasarte in their class C duel, 21-8, 21-6.

In the mixed doubles C, Francisco and Ariel Nodado needed only two games to down Rose Lazaro and Celso Agui, 21-20,

21-18, while Caracut and Edralin took only two to prevail over siblings Nicole and Jerome Malasarte, 21-11, 16-21, 21-17.

Janelle Pangilinan and Jexler Caranto also played an extended game against Toshiko Obata and Chris Hilario in the mixed doubles A before pulling off a 21-15, 18-21, 21-10 triumph, while Jen Savellano and Galvez went to the short route to beat Marlene Peraja and Aguda, 21-20, 21-11.

Completing last Saturday's matches were five mixed doubles B tiffs, which were all won after only two games. Windy Fernandez and Hilario topped Puy Macario and Elma Labuson, 21-16, 21-15; Janelle and Jordan Pangilinan thwarted Daniel Shen and Cheng Sat-

urno, 21-15, 21-14; Cris Obaldo and Manatsu Omori tripped Merlie Tolentino and Mr. Park, 21-19, 21-16; Shen and Saturno recovered against Jerry Tan and Shirley Kim, 21-7, 21-13; and Alma Ortea and Oh Im Bog triumphed over Tolentino and Park, 21-13, 21-9.

Mixed doubles action continued last Sunday with Shen and Saturno this time winning in class B against Macario and Labuson, 21-16, 21-8. In class A, Malasarte and Glenn Bluutjens swept Espana and Ito, 21-8, 21-15, and Alma Ortega and Gary Bandoja handed the latter pair another loss, 21-12, 21-16.

In the singles division, class B, Janelle Pangilinan won over Fernandez, 21-17, 21-15; Vil-

laflor prevailed over Tolentino, 21-20, 21-19; Hilario defeated Manatsu Omori, 19-21, 21-17, 21-19; Obata thumped Obaldo, 21-11, 21-17; Daniel Shen edged Kanata Omori, 21-15, 21-11; and Jordan Pangilinan outlasted Ezekiel Macario, 21-19, 19-21, 21-20.

Five more singles matches were played last Sunday with Galvez going 2-for-2 in class A with his victories over Caranto, 21-11, 21-11, and Riman, 21-9, 21-9. In the women's division, Savellano also took only two games to top Malou Malasarte, 21-11, 21-18, while in class C, Farro cruised to a 21-17, 21-12 win versus Santos and Peteru had a similar straight game win over Park, 21-15, 21-20.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS				
AMERICAN LEAGUE East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	36	24	.600	—
New York	34	25	.576	1 1/2
Baltimore	33	26	.559	2 1/2
Tampa Bay	32	26	.552	3
Toronto	25	34	.424	10 1/2
Central Division				
Detroit	31	26	.544	—
Cleveland	30	29	.508	2
Minnesota	26	30	.464	4 1/2
Chicago	25	32	.439	6
Kansas City	24	32	.429	6 1/2
West Division				
Texas	36	22	.621	—
Oakland	36	25	.590	1 1/2
Los Angeles	26	34	.433	11
Seattle	26	34	.433	11
Houston	22	38	.367	15
NATIONAL LEAGUE East Division				
Atlanta	37	22	.627	—
Philadelphia	30	30	.500	7 1/2
Washington	29	30	.492	8
New York	23	33	.411	12 1/2
Miami	16	44	.267	21 1/2
Central Division				
St. Louis	38	21	.644	—
Cincinnati	36	24	.600	2 1/2
Pittsburgh	35	25	.583	3 1/2
Chicago	24	33	.421	13
Milwaukee	22	36	.379	15 1/2
West Division				
Arizona	34	25	.576	—
Colorado	32	28	.533	2 1/2
San Francisco	31	28	.525	3
San Diego	27	32	.458	7
Los Angeles	25	33	.431	8 1/2

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Wawaindz, High-Five set title duel

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Wawaindz and High-Five marched into the finals of the 30A division of the 2013 Masters Basketball League after outclassing separates semis foes last Sunday night at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Wawaindz edged 8 Division in the first semis pairing, 95-90, while Hi-Five prevailed over CCS, 96-91, in the second game to arrange a winner-take-all finale this Sunday at 7pm.

It was a come-from-behind win for Wawaindz, which faced a 5-point deficit at the end of the third period, 68-73, before big man Gil Gapor stepped up his game in the fourth quarter and scored 10 huge points to give his team the first finals ticket.

Gapor also drew enough help from this teammates in the final canto, as Brandon Talania added 6, Melvin Capalad chipped in 5, and Badong Camacho contributed 3.

8 Division lost steam in the payoff period, particularly its gunner Estolas, who was held

to two field goals that came early in the fourth. 8 Division tried to recover the lead with their triples, but Wawaindz showed poised in the end to steal the win.

Talanía top-scored for Wawaindz with his 20 points, while Capalad and Gapor tallied 17 and 16, respectively, and Leo Itaas and Camacho recorded 11 apiece.

Estolas led all scorers with his 25 points.

In the second semis tiff, High-Five was also steady in the clutch, drawing four crucial free throws from Elmer Esdreton and getting a field goal from John Acosta to eke out the 5-point win. The High-Five guard dropped 8 points in the final canto to keep their distance after CCS moved within two at the end of the third, 73-75.

Esdreton finished with a team-high 25 points and was supported by the 21 markers of Edgar Pangelinan. Pangelinan hit three early triples in the first canto to lift Hi-Five to a 24-16 advantage and the team kept the driver's seat at the end of each quarter, as it continued to get points from every player it fielded in the game. Frontliners

Tim Wesley and Charlie Peters also nailed twin digits with 14 and 10, respectively, and held their ground against CCS' Twin Towers Darwin Barbo and Glenn Aquino.

James Abuy had a game-high 29 points in the losing end.

Meanwhile, the deciding Game 3 of the 40A title series between C&J Signs and Typhoon/Triple J will be played this Saturday at 7pm.

First Game

Wawaindz 95 – Talania 20, Capalad 17, Gapor 16, Itaas 11, Camacho 11, Paraiso 6, Montes 6, Olivos 2, Pantaleon 2.

8 Division 90 – Estolas 25, De Dios 13, Lerio 12, Barrios 11, Moises 11, Berline 11, Tenorio 3.

Scoring by quarters: 24-22, 49-50, 68-73, 95-90.

Second Game

High-Five 96 – Esdreton 25, Pangelinan 21, Wesley 14, Peters 10, Acosta 8, Aaron 6, Park 6, Matagolai 4, Babauta 2.

CCS 91 – Abuy 29, Barbo 20, Aquino 12, Jc. Mina 10, Jr. Mina 7, Sablan 2.

Scoring by quarters: 24-16, 46-40, 75-73, 96-91.



High-Five's Tim Wesley pulls up for a shot against CCS' Glenn Aquino during the first quarter of their semis game in the 30A division of the Masters caging last Sunday at the Garapan Basketball Court.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Sablan tops MGA monthly tourney



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ernest Sablan, second from left, topped Marianas Golf Association's May Ace of the Month Tournament last May 26 at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort. Joining him in the photo are, from left MGA president Carl Hocog, runner-up Park Jung, third place Jessica Sonoda, and MGA treasurer Greg Sablan Jr.



Ernest Sablan topped Marianas Golf Association's Ace of the Month Tournament held last May 26 at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort west course.

Sablan shot a 42 in the front and 45 in the back giving him a 87 gross score. With a handicap of 22, he bagged the ace of the month with a net score of 65.

Second place went to Park Jung who shot a 46 in the front and 41 in the back giving him a gross score of 87. With a handicap of 17, Park netted a score of 70.

Third place, meanwhile, went to Jessica Sonoda who shot a 51 in the front and a 50 in the back for a gross score of 101. With a handicap of 30, Jessica netted a score of 71.

In the closest to the pin battle, J.J. Atalig won in hole No. 3. However, Kang Sung Woo

dominated the closest to the pin competition winning holes No. 7, 13, and 17.

MGA tournaments are played with a handicap system where players with a handicap of 10 and under tee off from the championship tee (blue tee), those with a handicap of 11 and above tee off from the men's white tee, and the female participants tee off from the female red tee. MGA takes pride in their handicap system, as most other organizations do not utilize the championship tee during their ace of the month tournaments.

To compensate members who tee off from the championship tee, a +2 handicap is added to their standing for a competitive tournament.

MGA president Carl J. Hocog indicated that they are still inviting members of the community to join this organization.

The deadline for the annual membership fee of \$50 will be due in the upcoming June Ace of the Month Tournament. Hocog would also like to thank everyone who participated in this month's tournament, Laolao Bay Golf Resort for their partnership, and the Hocog family for hosting the group at their residence.

The club's June Ace of the Month is scheduled for June 23 at the Kingfisher Golf Links in Talafofo. Showtime is 9am with a 10am tee off.

For more information on this organization and for further updates on our upcoming tournaments, contact J.J. Atalig at 285-4115, Greg Sablan Jr. at 483-8263, or email marianas-golf670@gmail.com. The public can also view the organization's Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/Marianas-GolfAssociation>. (PR)

18th Annual TOC tees off Aug. 3-4



Preparations for the largest and most exciting golf tournament in the CNMI has shifted to high gear, and all golfers are invited to participate.

The 18th Annual Tournament of Champions, the region's premier golf event, will be played at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort's east and west courses on Aug. 3 and 4.

"We are aiming to make this year's tournament the best one ever," said tournament director Ben Babauta. "As usual, golfers can expect a fun-filled, first class competition that will feature hundreds of thousands dollars worth of prizes."

Since its inception, the Tournament of Champions event has raised over \$500,000 for the Saipan Beautification Fund, which has gone directly to the improvement of the tree-lined traffic medians that stretch from Garapan to the former Palm Resort Saipan, as well as the revitalization of the Garapan special district. In addition, the event has also raised funds for the Paseo

de Marianas, the lighting of the Saipan Beach Pathway, and the beautification of the Port to Park pathway.

Most recently, funds raised from the tournament were used to help complete the revitalization project at Mt. Tapochao. The tournament also helped to provide much needed supplies for the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council's "Adopt a Place" Program, which promotes island beautification projects.

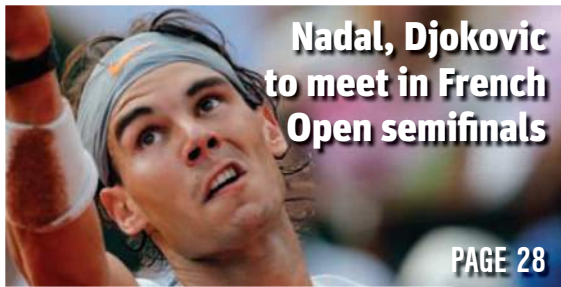
"We are proud of our continued commitment to enhance the beauty of Saipan for our tourists and residents," Babauta, said. "It is the generous support of our golfers, sponsors and committee members that make this event possible."

"Last year's sponsors stepped up their generosity by contributing more than \$300,000 in possible prizes for the two-day event, making it one of the biggest Tournament of Champions in its 18-year history," said Babauta.

In addition to exciting hole-in-one prizes and the chance to win thousands of dollars in possible prizes, first place

winners in the Men's Championship, A, B, C, Senior, and Super Senior flights will each receive \$500 cash, \$400 for second, \$300 for third, a digital camera to fourth, and \$100 DFS gift certificate for fifth place. The Ladies Low Gross champion will receive \$500, \$400 for second, and \$300 for third place. The first, second, and third place winners of the Ladies Low Net will receive a trophy.

Registration for the two-day tournament is \$185, which includes a lunch banquet on the second day. Registration forms can be downloaded from www.tocsaipan.com. Please register before 12pm on Aug. 2, 2013, by submitting registration form and registration fee at First Floor DFS Galleria (next to Foreign Currency Counter) or at Saipan Laolao. For more information about the event, contact Ben Babauta at 483-2563 or Marida Pensader at 236-2530. Companies who are interested becoming a sponsor should contact Frankie Eliptico by emailing frankie.eliptico@gmail.com. (PR)



Nadal, Djokovic
to meet in French
Open semifinals

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Wawaindz,
High-Five
set title
duel

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Pharmin qualifies; Race eclipses mark

CNMI Team members and a volunteer pose for a group photo during the opening ceremony for the 2013 Oceania Area Championships last Monday in Pepeeete, Tahiti.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI's Orrin Pharmin advanced to the semifinals of the 100m run competition in the 2013 Oceania Area Championships last Wednesday in Pepeeete, Tahiti.

Sweep rush in Week 2 of IT&E tourney



Pharmin finished second on Heat 1 with his 12.22 seconds to qualify to the next round of the sprint race along with 13 other runners. However, he

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By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Majority of players notched victories via sweep in last Saturday and Sunday's games in the 2013 IT&E Mixed Doubles and Singles Badminton Tournament at the TSL Sports Complex.

Last Saturday, 13 sweeps were recorded, while only three matches were won in three games, and one via default.

In singles play, men's class B, Brandon Taliana downed Jaypee Nopia, 21-11, 21-17, and Nopia managed to get one win last Saturday after slipping past Rodwealth Espana, 20-21, 21-18, 21-10.

Other men's singles results saw Andrew Galvez sweep Macoi Aguda in class A, 21-17, 21-12 and Jeff Riman win via default over Ferdie Arago. In

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Janelle Pangilinan hits a backhand return during her and Jexler Caranto's mixed doubles A match against Toshiko Obata and Chris Hilario in the IT&E tournament last Saturday at the TSL Sports Complex.

Saipan All-Stars named



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

An Ol'Aces runner slides to second base against a Lions player during the regular season game in the Saipan Little League Baseball last month. SLLB has named the Saipan All-Stars teams that will compete in the 17th Annual CNMI District Baseball Tournament on Tinian next week.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan Little League Baseball, Inc. has named the teams that will represent the island to the 17th Annual CNMI District Baseball Tournament and battle squads from Rota and host Tinian next weekend.

Named to the Major All-Stars are Donavid Ada, Kimo Angailen, Luis Blas, Dennis Cabre-

ra, Jose Camacho, Tyresse Camacho, Spencer Dickenson, Philip Kapileo, Jordan Klee Kosam, Jr., Pedro Maratita, Dai Podziewski, Shakobe Rangamar, Leonarado Salalila, and Sho Taguchi.

All 14 players are first timers in the district meet that will be held on June 14 to 16 on Tinian and are aiming to duplicate their predecessors' success in last year's competition. The Antonio Camacho-managed

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